For the
X'MAS WEEK
the film you ought to see:
MIRACLE OF LIFE
at
WEST END CINEMA
Churney Road.

The Bombay Chronicle

FOUNDED BY SIR PHEROZESHAH M. MEHTA, IN 1913

SLAVES OF FREEDOM
are those who can but will not marry; people who are of opinion that they can get more out of Life by remaining Single.
at
WEST END CINEMA
Churney Road.

THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

VOL. IV NO. 310 BOMBAY: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1916. ONE ANNA.

SHIPPING

P. & O. AND BRITISH INDIA.

(Companies Incorporated in England.)

MAIL & PASSENGER SERVICES.

P. & O. SAILINGS.

STEAMERS of the P. & O. Co. will be despatched to London, calling at Marseilles, at frequent intervals.

Steamers will also be depatched for Australia and for China and Japan.

Further particulars regarding fares, names of steamers and dates of departure of the above vessels will be furnished on application to the Undersigned.

Special opportunities are now offering for holiday trips, extending to a fortnight, to Ceylon and back.

BRITISH INDIA SAILINGS.

The British India Co. will despatch Mail steamers for Karachi, Persian Gulf and East and South Africa at frequent intervals.

Full particulars regarding dates and fares can also be obtained on application to

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & CO.,
Nicol Road, Fort, Bombay.

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Japan Mail Steamship Co., Ltd.

(Incorporated in Japan.)

To Japan, etc.

For sailings and Freight apply to

T. KAWAGUCHI,
Manager.

York Building.

Hornby Road, Bombay.

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(Incorporated in Japan.)

HEAD OFFICE:—OSAKA, JAPAN.

Fleet 128 Vessels, Gross Tonnage 619,057.

Steamers will be despatched at regular intervals to Japan via Singapore and Hongkong.

For freight and other particulars regarding sailing, etc., please apply to the UNDERSIGNED.

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Sukhadwalla Building,

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SHIPPING

ELLERMAN'S

CITY AND HALL LINES.

JOINT SERVICE

HOMEWARD

Sailing will be announced as soon as possible

FARES.	1st Class Single.	1st Class Return	2nd Class Single.	2nd Class Return.
	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.
Marseilles	555	883	420	636
London via Marseilles ...	630	1,033	480	720
Liverpool ...	600	90	52	675
London via Marseilles out from Liverpool	...	942	..	712

Owing to the war, rates of passage and dates of sailing subject to alteration or cancelment without liability to the Company.

Concessions granted to Families. Railway Employees, Hospital Nurses, Missionaries, Tea Planters, etc.

Officers of the Army are exempted from the penalty attached to over-staying their leave by reason of delay in arrival of steamer, provided, it is timed to arrive within the period of their leave.

The A. and C. Class steamers carry a duly qualified Surgeon and an experienced stewardess.

A. and C. Class steamers have Electric Light and Fan, fitted in each cabin FREE OF CHARGE.

The Fares advertised include Free Passage by B. I. Steamer between Bombay and Karachi and vice-versa.

Through booking in connection with Cunard Line.

All the above steamers are fitted with "WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY."

For passage and full particulars apply to:—

KILLICK NIXON & CO.

Bombay:—Messrs. B. Bates & Sons, Agency.

Karachi:—Messrs. Forbes, Forbes, Campbell and Co., Ltd.

ABAD LINE.

FOR BUNDER-ABBAS, HONGKONG, ETC.

For further particulars apply to:—

MIRZA MOHAMED SHIRAZEE,
15, Elphinstone Circle, Fort.
Shirazee's Building, Bombay.

THE PERSIAN GULF S N. CO. LTD.

Steamers are despatched at regular intervals to Persian Gulf and Red Sea Ports 1st and 2nd class passengers' accommodation. Deck passengers also carried.

For further particulars apply to:—

HAJI SULTANALI SHUSHTARY & Co.,
Agents,
121, Esplanade Road.

HEALTHY HAIR HINTS.

The idea that baldness is a sign of intellectuality is fast being exploded.

The hair is not pushed out of the head by the great knowledge inside.

In fact many learned men use Kaminia Oil to prevent their hair from coming off.

They are succeeding with it, too.

So are many in all stages of intellectuality.

Available everywhere. Ask if need be Kaminia Oil.

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NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA LIMITED.

(Incorporated in the United Kingdom.)

Bankers to the Government in British East Africa and Uganda.

Esplanade Road, BOMBAY.

Subscribed Capital £2,666,666
Paid-up Capital £1,666,666
Reserve Fund £1,266,666

Head Office:
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Branches:

Calcutta	Chittagong	Mombasa
Bombay	Rangoon	Nairobi
Madras	Mandalay	Nakuru
Karachi	Colombo	Kisuma
Lahore	Kandy	Jinja
Amritsar	Newera-Elliya	Kampala
Delhi	Aden (Camp)	Entebbe
Cawnpore	Aden (Steamer Point)	Tanga, East Africa.
Tuticorin		Daressalam, East Africa.
Cochin	Zanzibar	

Agents in New York and South America:—The Anglo-South American Bank, Ltd.

Agents in Mauritius:
Mouritius Commercial Bank.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

The Bank receives Fixed Deposits for One year and shorter periods at rates of interest to be ascertained on application.

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS

are opened for Approved Customers and interest is allowed at 2 per cent per annum from Rs. 1,000 up to Rs. 1,00,000 but no interest is allowed when the sum accrued does not amount to Rs. 5 half-yearly.

BILLS OF EXCHANGE

are granted on the Head Office and Branches, in India, China, Africa and Australia, purchased or collected.

DRAFTS

are granted on the Head Office and Branches, of the Bank and on the Principal Cities of Europe, Africa, America and Australia. Remittances may be by telegrams.

The Bank undertakes the purchase and sale of Government Securities. Stocks and Shares and receives same for safe custody realising Interest and Dividend when due.

Loans and Cash Credits granted on approved securities.

RALPH KIDD,
Manager.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED.

Established 1868.

Subscribed Capital ..... Yen 48,000,000
Paid-up Capital ..... Yen 36,000,000
Reserve Fund ..... Yen 20,806,000

HEAD OFFICE—YOKOHAMA.

Branches and Agencies at

Antung Hsein	Calcutta	Ryojun (Port Arthur)
Changchun	London	San Francisco
Darien (Dalny)	Lyons	Shanghai
Hankow	Fengtien	Sydney (Australia)
Harbin	(Mukden)	Tiehling
Hongkong	Nagasaki	Tientsin
Honolulu	Newchwang	Tokyo
Kobe	New York	Tsingtau
(Cal. U.S.A.)	Osaka	Tsinanfu
Los Angles	Pekin	
Liaoyang	Singapore	

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS are opened at 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances of Rs. 1,000 up to Rs. 1,00,000 provided that the amount of half-yearly interest is not less than Rs. 5.

FIXED DEPOSITS are received for one year and shorter periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.

Every description of BANKING and EXCHANGE business transacted.

N. IGARASHI,
Manager.

Post Box No. 207.

Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.

THE BANK OF INDIA, LTD.

ESTABLISHED 7TH SEPTEMBER, 1906.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE INDIAN COMPANIES ACT VI OF 1882.

HEAD OFFICE—ORIENTAL BUILDINGS. BOMBAY.

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED ..... Rs. 1,00,00,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP ..... Rs. 50,00,000
RESERVE FUND ..... Rs. 7,00,000

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.

Interest is allowed on daily balances from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,00,000 at the rate of 2½ per cent. per annum from December 1st to May 21st and 2 per cent. per annum for the remaining six months. On sums exceeding Rs. 1,00,000 interest is allowed by special arrangement. No interest will be allowed which does not amount to Rs. 3 per half year.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

Deposits are received fixed for one year or for shorter periods at rates of interest which can be ascertained on application.

GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS.

Translated rules for which can be obtained on application.

H. P. STRINGFELLOW,
Manager.

BANK OF BOMBAY.

HEAD OFFICE.

Mandvi Branch and Sandhurst Road Branch SAVINGS BANK.

The Bank receives Deposits on the following terms:—

Sums not exceeding Rs. 2,000 in the aggregate may be deposited within any one year from 1st January to 31st December.

Deposits may be made in the names of two or more persons and the balance made payable to one or more of them or to the survivor or survivors. Interest is allowed at the rate of three per cent. per annum on the minimum monthly balance not exceeding Rs. 10,000.

Copies of the Rules can be obtained on application at the Bank.

R. AITKEN,
Secretary and Treasurer.

INSURANCE

THE ORIENTAL

GOVERNMENT SECURITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1874

INDIA'S

Model Life Assurance Company.

FUNDS	CLAIMS PAID
Rs. 5,00,00,000	Rs. 4,50,00,000

The Question of the Moment!

Have you made adequate and secure provision for your wife and family or for old age? If not, effect a Policy with the "ORIENTAL" without a further moment's delay.

Low Premiums. Absolute Security.
Liberal Conditions.

Full particulars and forms on application.

R. PATERSON BROWN,
Manager.

Oriental Buildings, BOMBAY.

THE NATIONAL INDIAN LIFE INSURANCE CO., LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE:—CALCUTTA.

Offers world-wide policies on most liberal terms.

Security unquestioned.

Energetic Agents wanted:—To represent the Company throughout the Deccan.

For prospectus, etc., please apply to

B. RAMCHANDRA & Co.,
General Agents,
42, Medows Street, BOMBAY.

781

EMPIRE OF INDIA

LIFE ASSURANCE CO., LTD.

HEAD OFFICE: BOMBAY.

Funds exceed ..... Rs. 1,20,00,000
Claims paid exceed ..... Rs. 36,00,000
Annual Income exceeds.. Rs. 25,00,000

All classes of Life Assurance transacted.

Prospectus and quotations to meet individual requirements may be obtained on application.

ALLUM, BHARUCHA & Co.,
Managers.

THE BOMBAY WIDOWS PENSION FUND LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1878.

No. 278, Hornby Road, near Fire Brigade Station.

Funded Capital over Two Lakhs.

Investments in Government and approved Securities only.

Regular Deposit with the Controller of Currency of the Government of India in terms of the Insurance Act.

The Accounts are subject to strict audit according to Indian Companies Act.

Perfect Economy in management. The supervision as to Rates Mortality Investigation and Valuation is entrusted to an experienced European Actuary.

The object is to make provision for the widows of subscribers to a monthly pension from Rs. 5 to Rs. 50 without distinction of caste or creed. Rates of subscription are very moderate. Liberal Surrender Value in case the wife predeceased. Twelve months' grace if the occupation is lost.

Commission to canvassers.

For details apply for a copy of Rules to—

GAJANAN SADANAND DESAI,
Secretary & Treasurer

P. WARUSAVITANE BROS.

JEWELLERS AND DEALERS IN PRECIOUS STONES.

A large selection of Ceylon hand-made laces always in stock.

CEYLON DEPOT,
Opp. G. P. O., Fort Street,
BOMBAY.

HOTELS

THE EVER POPULAR

EMPRESS HOTEL NASIK ROAD DEOLALI.

Free Cinema and Musical Entertainment

during

X'MAS WEEK.

Visitors to Deolali are cordially invited.

ALEXANDRA HOTEL, Matheran

Is now conducted under the new management of Mr. M. C. LOBO, (the late manager of Pinto's Hotel), who has had experience of this business for over 30 years.

It occupies best situation, and affords all comforts, with good cuisine.

Blocks also reserved for European visitors.

TERMS VERY MODERATE.

WE PLEASE Everybody A. VIANELLI, Confectioner Chowpati.

THE "BOMBAY CHRONICLE".

The *Bombay Chronicle* is sold at one anna throughout India at the following stations:—

AHMEDABAD.—Sha Surajmal Chunilal.
AHMEDABAD.—A. H. Wheeler & Co.
AHMEDNAGAR.—A. H. Wheeler & Co.
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BELGAUM.—Higginbothams, Ltd.
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NADIAD.—Dalsukhram Keshavram Pandya.
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RUTLAM.—A. H. Wheeler & Co.
SHOLAPUR.—A. H. Wheeler & Co.
SURAT.—C. A. Kaji.
THANA.—Fredoon and Jamshed Iran.—Opposite Railway station.

A. S. MOLOOBHOY & CO.

CONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS.

Have on hand a stock of galvd. black and steam pipes with fittings, stay boiler and hydraulic tubes, lead brass and copper pipes, gun metal steam whepl valves, ball and other cocks, English leather and hair belting, well pumps, etc.

Price on application—

280 & 281, Nagdevi Street, BOMBAY

SALE BY AUCTION

MESSRS. MEHTA & CO.

Auctioneers to the Government, G. I. P. Railway, etc.,
No. 53, Meadows Street, Fort, Bombay.
Telephone No. 1285
Residence Telephone No. 696.

AUCTION SALE OF CHEESE.

TO-DAY FRIDAY, the 29th inst., at 1 p.m. (S. T.), Messrs. MEHTA and Co. will sell by Public Auction at their Rooms.

24 cases each containing 8 Cheese (balls) of about 10 lbs.

7 cases each containing 4 Cheese (balls) of about 8 lbs.

The cases are on view.

BONA-FIDE SALE.

AUCTION SALE ON SUNDAY, THE 31ST DECEMBER, AT 2-30 P.M. (S.T.)

AUCTION SALE of Very Rich and Made-to-Order Household Furniture by Well-known makers such as Roberts, Wimbridge, Devji Canji, Breslauer and Benjamin and others, Cottage Piano by D'Almain London, Brass Bed, Hand-Sewing Machine, Joets Fan, Rich Pencil Drawings, Automatic Window Curtains, Baba Garries, English Glassware, Porcelainware and Platedware, etc.

Messrs. MEHTA and Co., are instructed to sell by Public Auction, on SUNDAY, the 31st instant, at 2-30 p.m. (S.T.), at No. 5-6 Cuffe Parade (next to Arab's Bungalow), the very valuable specially selected and made-to-order handsome and substantial household furniture, such as telescopic dining tables for 12 persons, specially ordered dining chairs, artistic mirrored sideboards, substantial whatnots, rich dinner waggons, double meatsafes, silk tapestry lined complete drawing room suites of sofas and chairs, marble topped and wooden topped highly polished centre tables, solid iron framed grand cottage piano by the well-known Messrs. D'Almaine, London, rich writing tables, mirrored artistic cabinets, office chairs, revolving book cases, carved blackwood jardineer stands, rich vases, elegant oil paintings and pencil drawings by well-known artists, Master key roll top office tables, easy low and Curzon chairs, mirrored hat-stands, verandah benches, rich solid teapoys, wall plates, wall brackets, table ornaments, rich carpets, card tables, glass door book cases, automatic window curtains, full size Jost fan, hand-sewing machines, baba garries, selected solid double and single glass and panel door almyrahs, cloth and gown presses, dressing chests of drawers, marble topped dressing and washing tables, iron double and single beds, wooden beds very rich double brass bedstead joondahs, almyrahs, towel horses, rich glass crockery and platedware, etc., etc., the property of A. Holden, Esq., of Messrs. Bradbury Brady and Coy., including that of newly appointed Assistant Collector of Customs for Rangoon.

Catalogues are published and the property is on view.

MEHTA, & Co.,
Auctioneers.

Bombay, 29th December, 1916.

BENNETT & CO.

NO. 22, APOLLO STREET, FORT.

AUCTION SALE OF SERVICEABLE METER FITTINGS.

Under instructions from the Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay, Messrs. BENNETT and Co., will, on THURSDAY, the 11th January next, at 2-30 p.m., (S. T.), sell by Public Auction, at the Central Stores (Water Works Stores), Chinchpokly:—

A large quantity of serviceable meter fittings, consisting of drum with and without worm, worm for drum, wheel for worms, brass dial rings, worms and wheels, upright spindles, old pattern dial complete, hands for meter, brass filter and strainer, wheel for upright spindle, enamelled dial, brass cover, hands registering, hands for Siemens meter of sizes, washer rubber and canvas meter cap, bottom plate with spindle, brass coupling inlet and outlet, C.I., strainer, C.I., caps, C.I., clamp, C.I., bottom plate, dial enamel and complete stamder brackets rolling standard meter, valve slide standard meter wooden worm, etc.

TO-MORROW SATURDAY, the 30th instant at 3-30 p.m., (S. T.), Messrs. BENNETT & CO., will sell by public auction at their Rooms, a quantity of grey and coloured piece-goods, etc.

AT 2 P.M. (S.T.).

1 second hand rubber tyred pallanquin office shigram in good order.

1 second-hand rubber tyred victoria, in good order.

1 glass fronted miniature office brougham in good order.

1 Dark bay waler mare, 14-2, goes well in harness.

1 5-6 H.P. twin cylinder Red Indian 1915 model motor cycle, with Hurculese coach built side car.

BENNETT & CO.,

Bombay, 29th December, 1916.

GANDHI & CO.

AUCTIONEERS & COMMISSION AGENTS.
No. 52 Medows Street.

SALE TO-MORROW AT 2-30 P.M. (S.T.), AT NO. 7, GREEN STREET FIRST FLOOR AT THE PREMISES LASTLY IN OCCUPATION OF THE PIONEER BANK.

AUCTION SALE of Teak and Blackwood specially made, highly polished office as well as household plain and carved rich furniture.

On SATURDAY, the 30th December, 1916, at 2-30 p.m. (S.T.), Messrs. GANDHI & Co. are instructed to sell by public auction at the above premises (where the furniture has been arranged for sale) teak and blackwood made to order, highly polished office as well as household plain and carved rich furniture of the latest style including rich tapestry as well as leather lined suites, dining table and dining chairs, cane arm and armless office chairs, corner cabinets of well-known makers, leather lined sofas, easychairs of the latest style, rich drawing room set consisting of almyrahs, dressing chest drawers, double glass door book cases, marble top tables, fancy teapoys, wooden cot, verandah benches, deck chairs, book shelves baba gadi, platedware, etc., etc.

The property of D. P. Nanavaty, Esq., and others.

Catalogues are printed and the above is on view.

GANDHI & CO.,
Auctioneers.

Bombay, 29th December, 1916.

BUSINESS NOTICES

"WANTED" "TO LET" and "FOR SALE" Advertisements are charged at the following rates WHICH MUST BE PREPAID.

ADVERTISEMENTS not exceeding twenty words Re. 1 per insertion; every additional line (six words) or part of a line 4 annas. Headlines count as two lines.

Advertisers are requested to send remittance with copy of advertisement to avoid delay in publication.

Advertisers are requested to note that the publishers cannot undertake to send Replies to Advertisements unless a sufficient amount is prepaid to cover postage. Replies can always be obtained at the Office on production of the Vouchers given between the hours of 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.

SPECIAL CONTRACT RATES may be had on application to—
THE MANAGING DIRECTOR,
"Bombay Chronicle."

MISCELLANEOUS

HIGHLY experienced and expert FRENCH TEACHER (specialist) is open to engagement in a school or College. Apply to Box No. 454 Advt. Dept., "Bombay Chronicle." 6486

JOB PRINTING.—Send any orders you wish to be executed promptly and to your satisfaction to the "BOMBAY CHRONICLE" PRESS, 9 Medows Street, Fort.

WANTED

WANTED—In a Solicitor's firm a SHORT-HANDWRITER and TYPIST. Apply to Box No. 457, Advt. Dept., "Bombay Chronicle." 6492

WANTED—A smart and experienced TYPIST. Apply to the SENIOR MARINE TRANSPORT OFFICER, R.I.M., Dockyard, Bombay, personally. 6485

WANTED.—A FLAT in Fort for a small family from 1st January. Write to Box No. 100, Advt. Dept., "Bombay Chronicle."

WANTED.—At once a PARTNER, active or sleeping with capital of Rs. 8 thousand for a lucrative standing business. Interest and substantial profit guaranteed. Apply Box No. 455 Advt. Dept., "Bombay Chronicle." 6487

WANTED—A EUROPEAN NURSE to look after house and three children of an Indian nobleman. Apply stating age and references to Box No. 443, Advt. Dept., "Bombay Chronicle." 6451

WANTED—A TYPIST, possessing good knowledge of English correspondence. Salary according to qualifications. Apply stating age and nationality to Box No. 442, Advt. Dept., "Bombay Chronicle." 6450

WANTED CAPTAIN and CHIEF OFFICER for steamer. Apply sharp stating experience and salary required to Box No. 452, Advt. Dept., "Bombay Chronicle." 6477

WANTED—RECRUITS for the Anglo-Indian Battery. Apply to the RECRUITING AGENT, Anglo-Indian Force 118, Esplanade Road (above Thacker's) Bombay.

WANTED—AGENTS for the SALE of "THE BOMBAY CHRONICLE" in the principal cities of India. For terms communicate with the MANAGING DIRECTOR, Indian Newspaper Co., Ltd., 9, Medows Street Fort, Bombay.

A FLAT of 4 rooms, with E. L. and F., furnished or unfurnished, facing the sea if possible, wanted by a European gentleman for 6 months from 1st January next: 1st floor preferred. Apply stating rent to Box No. 456 Advt. Dept "Bombay Chronicle." 6491

WANTED—For the British Central Africa Co., Ld. INDIAN SALESMAN knowledge of Manchester goods. Salary £96 first year, £108 second and £120 third. Free medical attendance, free quarters, three years' agreement, free passage and travelling expenses while on duty. Apply with copies of testimonials to Box No. 450, Advt. Dept., "Bombay Chronicle." 6465

WANTED—Two different CHIEF AGENTS for C. P. and Berar and Bombay Presidency. Liberal allowance and commission to experienced and energetic men. First class references absolutely necessary. Please apply to—
P. BANERJEA,
Secretary, National Insurance Co., Ltd.,
8, Council House Street,
Calcutta.
B424

FRENCH INSTITUTE.

PUBLIC and PRIVATE CLASSES are or can be opened for students at all stages.
1. *Beginners*: Mondays, Thursdays, 9-10 a.m.
2. *Advanced*: Tuesdays, Fridays, 9-10 a.m.
Fee: Rs. 8 per month, payable in advance. Apply to PROF. LOUIS PELTIER, Thoburn House, Apollo Bunder, Bombay.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—One WESTINGHOUSE D. C. shunt wound 15 B.H.P., 460 volts, 950/1100 R. P. M. complete with shunt regulator and rheostat. Apply to Box No. 15, Advt. Dept., "Bombay Chronicle." 1985

FOR SALE.—At Bennett's auction on SATURDAY, the 30th December, a BAY WALER MARE in splendid condition. Sold off as not further needed. Broken to harness and saddle. Perfectly confidential. 6438

TO BE LET

TO BE LET—For the cold season uptil March OLYMPIA HOUSE MATHERAN. Apply Mrs. KARAKA, Marine Lines. 8376

NICHOLSON
DENTIST
(FROM LONDON HOSPITAL)
OPPOSITE COOK'S BUILDINGS,
41, HORNBY ROAD, FORT, BOMBAY.

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE.

OFFERS are invited for the SALE of the CEYLON SPINNING and WEAVING MILLS, situated at Wellawatte, Colombo. Apply for particulars to the RECEIVERS of the late Mr. AHMEDBHOY HABIBBHOY, 65, Medows Street, Fort. 6490

GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.

TEMPORARY STOPPAGE OF GOODS TRAFFIC.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that owing to shortage of coal it has been found necessary as a temporary measure to suspend the booking of all Public goods traffic in the direction of Bombay except Coal, Manganese Ore and Stores for the Military Department.

W. HAIDLAW,
for General Traffic Manager.
Bombay, 28th December, 1916. 262

NOTICE TO BUILDING CONTRACTORS.

TENDERS will be received up to MONDAY, 8th January, 1917, for the construction of a new building on Improvement Trust Plot No. 180 Sandhurst Road, West for Mr. Dalpatram Itcharam, Solicitor.

Plans can be seen and copies of Schedule of Rates, conditions of Contract and specification of materials and works obtained at the Office of the undersigned on payment of Rs. 2.

The owner does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any Tender.

P. F. BALSARA, A.R.I.B.A.,
Architect.
9, Tamarind Lane, Fort.
Bombay 27th December, 1916. 6489

THE EXCHANGE BANKS, BOMBAY.

THE EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED on MONDAY, the 1st proximo, being a Public Holiday under the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881. 6480

NOTICE.

TENDERS are invited for the cost of color-washing and painting the Kohinoor Mills at Naigaum Road, Dadar. Apply to:—
KILLICK NIXON & Co.,
Bombay,
6469 Agents.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

ADVERTISERS are requested to note that the management cannot guarantee to insert advertisements in the "Bombay Chronicle" unless the copies reach this office before 6-0 p.m., (S.T.)

MANAGING DIRECTOR.
"Bombay Chronicle."
Bombay, 30th August, 1916.

AMUSEMENTS

EMPIRE THEATRE
THE PICTURE HOUSE PAR EXCELLENCE
3 Performances.
4-30; 6-30 & 10 p.m.
X'MAS ATTRACTIONS!
Another Fine Pathe Drama
"PAPA HULIN"
featuring some beautiful child-acting and the famous actor
HENRY KRAUS
PATHE'S GAZETTE.
Latest from Home.
A delightful Comedy for old and young
"THE LITTLE" LEAD SOLDIER.
Specially selected for X'mas
A delicious American Satire on "Sending Notes".
"NUTTY NEWS"
A roar from Start to Finish.
Another great Laugh
"BABYLAS INHERITS" "A PANTHER"
Another comedy for the kiddies which grown up kids will also enjoy.
A TOPICAL NOVELTY!
An Epic of the Sky.
"THE STRAFFER STRAFFED"
Prices, Rs. 2 to 4 Annas.

THE ANGLO-AMERICAN CINEMA.
LITTLE AWAY FROM OLYMPIA (East Side)
SANDHURST ROAD,
HEART OF A TIGRESS.
4,500 feet.
TIME AND PRICES AS USUAL.

AMUSEMENTS

LAST DAY! LAST DAY!!
TO THE LADIES OF BOMBAY!
IT IS YOUR DUTY TO SEE THE FILM
"THE MIRACLE OF LIFE."
IT TEACHES A GREAT MORAL LESSON.
GO TO-NIGHT
TO THE
WEST END CINEMA.
6-45—8-30—10.
SPECIAL MATINEE TO-DAY AT 5 P.M.

EXCELSIOR THEATRE
BOMBAY'S PREMIER PLAYHOUSE.
EVERY EVENING AT 9-30 P. M. SHARP
MAURICE E. BANDMAN
presents the
WORLD FAMOUS BRITISH COMEDIENNE
and her own
ADA REEVE
London Company
To-night and To-morrow Saht. 30t
owing to its enormous Success.
The Brilliant Lancashire Comedy.
HOBSON'S CHOICE
By Harold Brighouse.
MON., TUE. & WED. 1st., 2nd. AND 3rd.
For the first time in the East.
An Original Musical Play in 3 Acts.
By MALCOLM WATSON & T. H. READ
"A MODERN EVE"
'Winnie Brooke" A Widow ADA REEVE
THURS., FRI. & SAT. JAN., 4th, 5th & 6th.
For the first time in the East.
Direct from the Comedy Theatre, London.
"ELIZA COMES TO STAY"
A Farcical Comedy in 3 Acts by H. V. Esmond
"ELIZA" Miss ADA REEVE
Presented by a Short Vaudeville Programme.
Prices, Rs. 6, 5, 4, 3, 2 and 1.
Box Plans at Messrs. S. ROSE & Co.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE QUEEN OF BOMBAY,
BOMBAY'S MOST CENTRAL THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING AT 6-45 & 10.
LAST NIGHT OF THE CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME.
"A MODERN CINDERELLA."
The story of how a shop-girl tried on the shoe whose wearer was to be offered a part in a new theatrical production and succeeded, like Cinderella in the old fairy tale. Like her too, the heroine won glory and happiness far above her early dreams.
"THE TERRIBLE TURK."
In order to help on a friend's love affair a man disguises himself as a Turkish ruby-seller and goes to the girl's house. While trying to sell a ruby the real Turkish jeweller appears, and very comic complications arise.
"WANTED A HUSBAND."
A girl's husband is a commercial traveller and is away when her uncle summons her to his hotel so that he may see the man she has married. A great deal of money hangs in the balance and another man is substituted for hubbby, who, however, arrives at the wrong moment. The tangle resulting is very funny.
The latest.
PATHE GAZETTE.
SPECIAL HOLIDAY MUSIC BY THE EUROPEAN ORCHESTRA.
Prices: Re. 1/8, Re. 1, Ans. 8 & 4, Box seats, Re. 2.

NEW ALEXANDRA
NEAR CRAWFORD MARKET
Tel. 1882.
TO-NIGHT. TO-NIGHT
A Clarendon Master Piece
A PRINCESS OF BLOOD
A Spectacular Four Act Photo-Play, of the Thrilling Story of a Princess's Love Romance, Royal Plots, and the Court Intrigues.
with
CHARLES CHAPLIN
the Prince of Comedians
in a new two reel comic convulsion.
Thrice Nightly: 7, 8-45, 10-30.
USUAL HALF RATES. Re. 1 to As. 2.
COMMENCING SATURDAY NEXT
Our Super Circus Serial
"PEG O' THE RING"

COMMERCIAL.

CABLE QUOTATIONS.

COTTON.

LIVERPOOL COTTON.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

Liverpool, Dec. 27th.

	Bales.
Total Day's Sales at Liverpool	5,000
" " Sales on Spec. & for Exp.	300
" " Sales of East Indian	150
" " Imports	35,000
Mid. Americans	10.37
Egyptian F. G. F.	19.80
New York 11 a.m. (As known in closing time.) Liverpool at	March 17.30, May 17.58
New Orleans 10 a.m.	March 16.85, May 17.10

OPENING TONE AND PRICES.

Liverpool, Dec. 27th.

FUTURE DELIVERY PRICES:—

Months.	To-day's opening price.
December	10.26
Dec.-Jan.	10.25
Jan.-Feb.	10.26
Feb.-Mar.	10.32
Mar.-Apl.	10.38
Apl.-May	10.43
May-June	10.49 +49
June-July	10.49
July-Aug.	10.49
Aug.-Sept	10.22
Sept.-Oct.	9.92
Oct.-Nov.	9.82
Nov.-Dec.	9.74
Dec.-Jan.	9.70

Prices taken at 10-10 a.m. nearest actual values.

CLOSING PRICES.

Liverpool, Dec. 27th.

Months.	To-day's closing price.
December	10.17
Dec.-Jan.	10.16 +31
Jan.-Feb.	10.17
Feb.-March	10.24+32
March-April	10.32+24
April-May	10.38+35
May-June	10.45
June-July	10.45 +36
July-Aug.	10.45
Aug.-Sept.	10.20+38
Sept.-Oct.	9 92+40
Oct.-Nov.	9 81
Nov.-Dec.	9.73 +39
Dec.-Jan.	9.69

CLOSING EGYPTIAN FUTURE PRICES.

Liverpool, Dec. 27th.

Months.	To-day's price.
March	17.75
May	17.75 —45
July	17.75

ADDITIONAL QUOTATIONS.

Liverpool, Dec. 27th.

M. G. Bengal Good	6.94
" " Fully Good	7.11
" " Fine	7.30
" No. 1 Oomra Good	7.44
" " Fully Good	7.62
" " Fine	7.80
" Broach Good	9.59
" " Fully Good	9.77
" " Fine	9.95

AMERICAN MARKETS.

New York, Dec. 27th.

Day's Receipts at all U. S. Ports	30,000
Futures at New York March	17.59+49
" " May	17.38+50
Spot Cotton at New York	17.35+45
" " New Orleans	17 25 Unchgd
Futures at New Orleans March	17.19+51
" " May	17.44+52

LIVERPOOL WEEKLY COTTON REPORT.

London, Saturday, Dec 27th.

	Bales.
Total in Sight	3,500,000
Egyptian Visible Supply	356,000
East Indian "	214,000
American "	4,556,000
Other "	70,000

MONEY MARKET.

London, Dec. 27th.

Bar Silver Spot	36 1/

BOMBAY MARKETS.

COTTON.

(From our Commercial Correspondent.)

Dec. 28.

The market to-day opened at Rs. 384 for M. G. Good Broach and advanced to Rs. 386 but on some selling on the part of both, Houses and the Bazaar declined to Rs. 380. Business has been reported in G. Broach and K/Akola styles.

Ready cotton is in fair demand.
M. G. G. Broach, Rs. 380½.
F. G. Bengal, Rs. 270/1.
F. K/Akola, Rs. 370.

MESSRS. PATEL BROS' APPROXIMATE QUOTATIONS AT MID-DAY.

Bombay, Dec. 28th.

Description.	Delivery. Jan 1917	Mar. 1917	April 1917	Spot. Cotton.
Broach, Good M.G.	..	..	384/5	
Broach, Fine M.G.	..	397	..	New
Bengal, F.G. M.G.	275	..	..	276/86
Bengal, Fine M.G.	289	..	..	286/96
Berar, Superfine M.G.	..	..	..	300/10
Rajputana, Fine M.G.	..	..	..	286/9
Sind Panjab, Fine M.G.	..	..	..	286/9
Khan./Akola	Fine M.G.	370	..	.. 365/85
Ellich/Amraoti,	Fine M.G.	..	..	.. 367/87
Dhamg./Pulgaon,	Fine M.G.	..	..	.. 375/90
Yeotmal,	Fine M.G.	..	..	.. 375/90
Nagpore,	Fine M.G.	..	..	.. 385/95
Hingt./Wardha,	Fine G.M.	..	..	.. ..
Khandesh,	Fine M.G.	350	..	.. 350/72
Khandesh,	F.G. M.G.	343	..	.. 345/95
Khandwa Sanawad	F.G. M.G.	..	..	.. ..
Jalna	F.G. M.G.	..	..	.. 355/65
Indore,	F.G. M.G.	..	..	.. ..
Ujjain,	F.G. M.G.	..	..	.. ..
Nunder,	F.G. M.G.	..	..	.. ..
Mathia,	Fine M.G.	..	..	.. ..
Mathia,	F.G. M.G.	..	..	.. ..
Saw Ginned Dharwar	Good	..	..	.. 376/85
Coompta,	Good M.G.	..	..	.. 395/15
Westerns,	Good M.G.	..	..	.. 385/93
Westerns,	Good M.G.	..	..	.. 365/75

THE BOMBAY COTTON EXCHANGE CO., LTD.

Market Quotation for Ready and Forward Delivery Contracts as fixed by the Rate Committee of the Exchange.

COLABA, 28th December, 1916, 5-30 p.m

Growths.	Super-fine.	Fine.	Fully Good.	Delivery.
Bengals (M.G.)	304	290	276	.. Ready
Bengals (M.G.)	299	285	271	.. 1/25th Jan. 17
Scinde-Punjab (M.G.)	..	289	275	.. Ready
	..	284	270	.. 1/25th Jan. 17
Khandesh (M.G.)	..	348	325	.. Ready
	..	356	340	.. 1/25th Jan. 17
Jalna (M.G.) G.S.	..	..	352	.. Ready
Barsee (M.G.) G.S.	..	..	365	.. Ready
Oomra M.G. (Fair-Staple)	..	..	..	..
	..	..	..	..
Akola Khamg.	..	358	343	.. Ready
Karanja (M.G.)	..	366	350	.. 1/25th Jan. 17
Oomrawatee descriptions (M.G.)	..	358	343	.. Ready
Dhamangaum Poolgaum (M.G.)	..	364	349	.. Ready
Yeotmal (M.G.)	..	371	356	.. Ready
Nagpore Kamptl (M.G.)	..	379	364	.. Ready
Wardha H'ghat (M.G.)	..	392	367	.. Ready
	..	398	373	.. 1/25th Jan. 17
	..	394	..	.. 1/25th Mar. 17
Broach (M.G.)	..	..	..	381 1/25th Ap. 1917
Surat (M.G.)	..	..	..	..
Mathia (M.G.)	..	349	330	.. Ready
	..	350	335	.. 1/25th Jan. 1917
Bhagalkote-Bijapur (M.G.)	..	..	..	..
Sawgd. Dharwar	..	..	..	394 April-May 1917
	..	..	..	..
Westerns (M.G.)	..	..	..	390 May.-June 1917
Westerns (H.G.)	..	..	..	382 May.-June 1917
Compta (M.G.)	..	..	..	396 May-June 1917
	..	..	..	..
Miraj (M.G.)	..	..	..	400 May-June 1917
	..	..	..	..

WHEAT AND SEEDS.

Bombay, Dec. 28th—4 p.m.

The following are to-day's closing rates as issued by the Marwari Chamber of Commerce.

	Bazaar Terms. Ready.	Bazaar Terms. Ready.	Bazaar Terms. Ready.	Ball Delivery Rs.	Ball Delivery a.	Ball Delivery p.
Wheat, White Delhi 70-80	..	..	42	0	0	6 13 0
" White Cawnpore 70-80	..	..	42	0	0	6 13 0
" Karachi Bangla	..	..	42	0	0	6 13 0
Rapeseed, Brown Delhi	..	..	6	6	0	6 12 0
" Brown Cawnpore	..	..	6	5	0	6 11 0
" Yellow Cawnpore	..	..	6	12	0	7 2 0
Linseed, Brown Bold	..	..	9	12	0	10 2 0
" Brown Thin	..	..	9	8	0	9 14 0
Teelseed, White 85-15	..	..	48	0	0	9 12 0
" Gajar 75-25	..	..	46	0	0	9 7 0
" Black	..	..	39	0	0	8 0 0
" Gajar 50-50	..	..	44	0	0	9 0 0
Poppyseed, White	..	..	7	0	0	7 8 0
Groundnuts	..	..	42	0	0	.. ..
Mowraseed	..	..	4	0	0	4 4 0
Jowa	..	..	32	0	0	4 12 0
Arandia	..	..	40	0	0	.. ..
Forward.			Rs.	a.	p.	
Wheat April-May	..	..	6	5	6	
Linseed May	..	..	11	1	6	
Teelseed White 85-15 Dec./Jan.	..	..	9	12	0	
" Gajar 75-25 Dec./Jan.	..	..	9	7	0	
" Gajar 50-50 Dec./Jan.	..	..	9	0	0	
" Black Dec./Jan.	..	..	8	0	0	

BOMBAY GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

(THURSDAY, DEC. 28.)

Mr. H. B. Shivdasani, I.C.S., Assistant Collector in the district of Surat, to be a Magistrate of the First Class in that district.

Mr. K. V. Shinde, Deputy Superintendent of Police at Nasik, is granted privilege leave for two months and a half with effect from the 3rd January 1917.

Mr. V. V. Gadkari to do duty as Joint Second Class Subordinate Judge at Khed.

With effect from 15th June 1916 vice Mr. Narayan Chintaman Pethe, Fourth Grade Deputy Collector, retired:—

Mr. Ghulam Muhammad Mir Muhammad to be Fourth Grade Deputy Collector.

Mr. Syed Muniruddin Sirajuddin Moulvi to be Fifth Grade Deputy Collector.

Mr. Mulram Kirparam to be substantive pro tem. Fifth Grade Deputy Collector.

With effect from 12th July 1916 vice Khan Bahadur Jacob Bapuji Israel, Fourth Grade Deputy Collector, retired:—

Mr. Yashavant Ballappa Borkar to be Fourth Grade Deputy Collector.

Mr. Mulram Kirparam to be substantive pro tem. Fifth Grade Deputy Collector.

With effect from 26th July 1916 vice Mr. Durgeshwar Natvarji Trivedi, Fifth Grade Deputy Collector, retired:—

Mr. Gurdasing Teumal to be Fifth Grade Deputy Collector.

Mr. Narayan Nilkanth Sathe to be substantive pro tem. Fifth Grade Deputy Collector.

With effect from 1st August 1916 vice Rao Bahadur Ramchandra Narayan Joglekar, I.S.O., First Grade Deputy Collector, retired:

Mr. Vinayak Krishna Namjoshi to be First Grade Deputy Collector.

Mr. Vishanath Narayan Sathaye to be Second Grade Deputy Collector.

Mr. Sadhusing Morusing to be Third Grade Deputy Collector.

Rao Saheb Ganpat Raghavendra Kalyanpurkar to be Fourth Grade Deputy Collector.

Mr. Narayan Nilkanth Sathe to be Fifth Grade Deputy Collector.

Mr. Srinivas Svamirao Deshpande to be substantive pro tem. Fifth Grade Deputy Collector.

With effect from 24th September 1916 vice Mr. Sayaji Shivaji Poredi, Fourth Grade Deputy Collector, retired:—

Mr. Muhammad Kadir Shaikh to be Fourth Grade Deputy Collector, and to continue seconded.

Mr. Narmadashankar Devshankar Mehta to be Fourth Grade Deputy Collector.

Mr. Shrinivas Svamirao Deshpande to be Fifth Grade Deputy Collector.

Mr. Dwarkanath Rajaram Vaidya to be substantive pro tem. Fifth Grade Deputy Collector, and to continue seconded.

Mr. Dosabhai Dhanjibhai Bilimoria to be substantive pro tem. Fifth Grade Deputy Collector.

With effect from 20th November 1916 vice Mr. Narayan Abaji Parnaik, Third Grade Deputy Collector, retired:—

Mr. Gunvantrai Gulabrai Desai to be Third Grade Deputy Collector.

Mr. Ramchandra Vishvanath Gadgil to be Fourth Grade Deputy Collector.

Mr. Dwarkanath Rajaram Vaidya to be Fifth Grade Deputy Collector, and to continue seconded.

Mr. Dosabhai Dhanjibhai Bilimoria to be Fifth Grade Deputy Collector.

Mr. H. C. Fleming to be an additional Deputy Collector in the Thana District and to do duty as Personal Assistant to the Salsette Development Officer and Assistant Collector in charge Bassein Sub-division.

Mr. J. R. Martin, I.C.S., is allowed a further extension of furlough for eight days in continuation of the furlough granted to him.

Syed Muniruddin Sirajuddin Moulvi, District Deputy Collector, Surat, passed, on 4th December 1916, an examination in Gujarati according to the Higher Standard.

Mr. Dulabhji Wasuji Goghari, L.C.E., Sub-Engineer, Third Grade, permanent, and Sub-Engineer, Second Grade, substantive pro tem. (Supernumerary), is promoted to be to Assistant Engineer (Provincial Service), with effect from the 1st January 1917.

Mr. H. W. O. Taylor, A.C.G.I., B.Sc. (Lond.) Assistant Engineer, to act as Executive Engineer of the new Public Works Central Store and Workshop District, with headquarters at Dapuri near Kirkee.

Mr. Balkrishna Vinayak Deshmukh, LL.B., to be a Public Prosecutor in the district of Poona for a further term of three years with effect from the 14th September 1915. Mr Deshmukh will be Second Assistant to the District Public Prosecutor.

PARISIAN DAIRY CO., Tamarind Lane, Fort, Bombay, for high class Table, Butter, Rich Cream and Milk. 663

WEATHER REPORT

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)

SIMLA, Dec. 28.

The disturbed conditions in the Bay have caused nearly general rain in the Bay islands and Upper Burma; local rain in Lower Burma and a few falls in Assam.

The largest amounts are:—Port Blair two inches; Table Island one; Tavey, Lashio and Maymyo three quarters. The depression to the west of Northern India has intensified but its centre is still at some distance.

Forecast:—Local rain in Burma.

SUN, MOON AND TIDES IN BOMBAY.

The following are the hours and heights of the tides in Bombay Harbour during the ensuing week. Hour stated in Bombay Mean Time depth of water is at Prince's Dock:—

Day of Week.	Day of Month.	MHGH WATER. Bombay Mean time.	Depth on Still.	Day of Month.	LOW WATER. Bombay Mean time.	Depth on Still.
	Dec.	h. m.	ft. in.	Dec.	h. m.	ft. in.
Thur	28	m 1 35	30 6	28	m 7 44	17 5
		1 44a	27 5		7 29a	15 7
Fri.	29	m 2 18	29 10	29	m 8 32	17 3
		2 38a	26 11		8 19a	16 11
Sat.	30	m 3 3	28 11	30	m 9 16	17 4
		3 37a	26 8		9 13a	15 6
Sun.	31	m 3 51	27 9	31	m 10 27	17 6
	Jan. 1	4 45a	25 8	Jan. 1	10 19a	20 0
Mon.	1	m 4 44	26 6	1	m 11 35	17 7
		6 0a	25 7		11 54a	21 3
Tues.	2	m 5 44	25 10	2	0 44a	17 7
		7 39a	25 10			
Wed.	3	m 6 53	25 1	3	m 1 30	21 3
		9 3a	26 6		1 49a	17 5

The following are the hours of sunrise and sunset according to Indian Standard Time during the ensuing week:—

Dec.	Sunrise.	Sunset.
" 28 (Thursday)	" 7h. 11m.	" 6h. 10m.
" 29 (Friday)	" 7h. 11m.	" 6h. 11m.
" 30 (Saturday)	" 7h. 11m.	" 6h. 12m.
" 31 (Sunday)	" 7h. 12m.	" 6h. 13m.
Jan. 1 (Monday)	" 7h. 12m.	" 6h. 13m.
" 2 (Tuesday)	" 7h. 12m.	" 6h. 13m.
" 3 (Wednesday)	" 7h. 12m.	" 6h. 14m.

PHASES OF THE MOON:—

New Moon	1916 Dec. 25th.,	2h. 1.2m. a.m.
First Quater	" 31st.,	5h. 37.3m. p.m.
Full Moon	1917 Jan 8th.,	1h. 12.0m. a.m.
Last Quarter	" " 16th.,	5h. 12.1m. p.m.

DAILY WEATHER REPORT.

Summary of observations recorded at 8 hours on Thursday, the 28th December 1916, giving data for the preceding 24 hours.

The Punjab.—Skies are lightly or moderately clouded. Humidity is normal or in defect. Temperature has risen but is still in defect at night at Ambala.

The United Provinces.—Skies are lightly or moderately clouded in the extreme north-western districts and clear elsewhere. Humidity is normal or in defect. Temperature continues in defect.

Sind and Rajputana.—Skies are lightly or moderately clouded. Humidity is normal or in defect. Temperature continues in defect.

Gujarat, Kathiawar and Central India West.—Skies are moderately clouded in Kathiawar and clear or lightly clouded elsewhere. Humidity is normal or in defect. Temperature is in defect except at Dwarka and Veraval.

The Central Provinces.—Skies are clear or lightly clouded. Temperature remains in defect.

The Konkan.—Skies are lightly clouded. Humidity is in excess at Karwar and normal or in defect elsewhere. Temperature is in defect in the south Konkan.

The Bombay Deccan and Hyderabad.—Skies are moderately clouded in north Hyderabad and clear or lightly clouded elsewhere. Humidity is in defect in the southern half of the division and normal or in excess in the northern half. Temperature continues in defect.

General Remarks.—Conditions are unsettled in north-west India where skies have become lightly or moderately clouded. Temperature continues in defect in Rajputana, the United Provinces, the central parts of the country and in the Deccan.

A few showers are possible in the extreme north.

AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK.

Telegraphic reports from the Districts in the Bombay Presidency show that standing crops were in good condition during the week ending 26th instant, except for slight damage by frost in two talukas of Larkana and by locusts in two talukas of Nawabshah. Harvesting of kharif crops generally continues. Sowing of rabi crops progressing in five districts of Sind and three of Gujarat. Picking of cotton is in progress in Hyderabad, Thar Parkar, Nawabshah, Khandesh, Ahmednagar, Sholapur and Kathiawar. The supply of fodder is adequate. Agricultural stock is sufficient and cattle are in good condition. The supply of water for drinking is sufficient. The supply of water for irrigation is adequate except in parts of Thar Parkar, Panch Mahals and Kaira. Prices of food-grains have slightly fallen in Sind and Deccan and were generally steady elsewhere.

PLAGUE IN THE PRESIDENCY.

Mortality from plague in districts and Native States in the Bombay Presidency during the week ending 23rd instant occurred as follows:—Bombay City 12, Ahmedabad City 2, Kaira District 21, Broach Port 1, Surat Town and Port 41, other places in Surat District 6, West Khandesh District 384, East Khandesh District 150, Bhiwandi Port 2, Satara District 385, Nasik District 238, Ahmednagar District 422, Poona Town 80, other places in Poona District 644, Sholapur Town 203, other places in Sholapur District 486, Kolaba District 5, Belgaum District 225, Hubli Town 83, other places in Dharwar District 265 Bijapur District 267, Kanara District 1, Karachi Town and Port 1, Kolhapur and Southern Maratha Country States 321, Kathiawar Agency 13, Bhor State 59, Savnur State 5, Akalkot State 9, Satara Agency 10, Bijapur Agency 5, total 4,346.

The "Statesman" announces that in view of the increased cost of paper it will increase the price of its Sunday edition to two annas, and its monthly subscription is increased by eight annas, both the changes to date from January 1st.

Digitized with financial assistance from the Government of Maharashtra
on 09 April, 2017

BOMBAY CITY AND SUBURBS.

TO-DAY.

Parsi: 20th of Tir, 1286.
Hindu: 5th of Posh Sud, 1973.
Mahomedan: 3rd of Rubee-at-Awal, 1335.
Sunrise: 7h. 11m. Sunset: 6h. 11m.
Phases of the Moon: First Quarter Dec. 31st.

LOCAL ENGAGEMENTS.

Municipal Standing Committee Meeting, 4-10 p.m.

Excelsior Theatre: Miss Ada Reeve and her Co., in "Hobson's Choice," at 9-30 p.m.

SATURDAY, Dec. 30.

Excelsior Theatre: Miss Ada Reeve and her Co., in "Hobson's Choice" at 9-30.

MONDAY, Jan. 1.

New Year's Dance G. I. P. Byculla Mechanic's Institute at 9-30 p.m., (S.T.).

Bombay Races: Third Extra Meeting.

Excelsior Theatre: Miss Ada Reeve and her Co., in "A Modern Etc" at 9-30.

DAILY.

Excelsior Theatre: Miss Ada Reeve and her Co., at 9-30 p.m.

Empire Cinema: 4-30, 6-30 and 10 p.m.

Royal Opera House, 6-45 and 10 p.m.

Palace of Varieties: at 6-30 and 10 p.m. every Wednesday, Saturday and Monday, 10 p.m., Show every Sunday at 6-30 at Edwardes.

New Alexandra Cinema, Lohar Chawl, Princess Street.

Olympia Cinema, Sandhurst Road.

West End Cinema, Charni Road: 6-45, 8-30 and 10.

New Alhambra Cinema, Sandhurst Road, 7, 8-45 and 10-30.

BAND AT THE ROYAL BOMBAY YACHT CLUB.

By kind permission of Colonel T. W. Bonner V.D., and Officers, the Band of the 1st Battalion, G. I. P. Ry. Volunteers, will play this evening a programme of music, under the direction of Mr. Hugh B. Mitchell, Band Master, commencing at 6 p.m.

THE ISRAELITE BROTHERHOOD.

The Brotherhood will hold Sports for Jewish children under 13 years, on Sunday, next on the Israelite School grounds, commencing at 3 p.m. (S. T.) Mrs. Solomon Moses has kindly consented to distribute the prizes.

REPORTED THEFT OF ORNAMENTS.

It has been reported to the Police by Motilal Chunilal, moonim of Mr Nundiram Chunilal, who has a place of business in Motishawa's Lane, that on the night of Wednesday last, ornaments of the value of Rs. 1,820 were removed from his shop by breaking it open.

ST. STANISLAUS INSTITUTION, BANDRA

The boys of St. Stanislau's Institution at Bandra, will give an entertainment on New Year's Eve, Sunday, the 31st instant, at 6 p.m. in the compound of the Institution. The benefactors and well-wishers of the school and orphanage, who have contributed towards the Christmas tree for one hundred and more orphans and poor boys, are cordially invited to the entertainment.

EXECUTION OF A LIFE-CONVICT.

At the Oomerkhady Jail yesterday the sentence of death passed by Mr. Justice Kemp, on Ashgar Khan Gulamali Khan at the last Criminal Sessions, was carried out. It may be mentioned that Ashgar Khan had been sentenced to death as he had stabbed Mariam, a kept mistress of his, on the evening of the 5th October last at Parel, on account of her jiling him Ashgar Khan had also stabled Abdul Samat Khan, and mortally wounded him, at the same time.

Y. M. C. A. CONCERT.

The Annual Concert arranged by the Y. M. C. A. for the patients at St. George's Hospital took place on December 25 at the Hospital by the kind permission of the Lady Superintendent and Colonel Jackson. The audience included quite a number of the members of the staff and also visitors, and the programme was fully appreciated. The following artistes kindly assisted: Mrs. R. P. Mears, Mrs. Eldridge, Miss Woodswall, Miss O. Yamley, Miss Hart, Messrs. Padgett, Leban R. B. Young, while Mr. Carlton (Manager, Ada Reeve Co.) also delighted the audience. Mrs. Hayles obliged at the piano.

BOXING DAY AT CATHOLIC GYMKHANA

Those responsible for the management of the Catholic Gymkhana did not forget the oversea invalided soldiers and got up a tea party and concert for some of them last Tuesday evening on their premises. The organization was entrusted to Mr. A. Mendoza and a very enjoyable evening was spent. The soldiers arrived at the grounds at 5 p.m. and they were immediately served with tea and other light refreshments by Mrs. A. Britto, Dr. Mrs. D'Monte and a few others. A fine programme of vocal and instrumental music was then got through. The little Mendozas contributed a goodly share splendidly. Private Mathews R.A.M.C., a bass soloist, quite a rare acquisition, rendered two songs. Miss Marjorie Griffin danced well and a violin solo by Master John Britto accompanied on the piano by his sister, Miss Ernestine, was an equally successful performance. The large audience at the close sang the National Anthem.

EXHIBITION OF LADIES' ART WORK AT THANA.

There is going to be an exhibition at Thana in the K. P. S. Club Hall of works of art, viz., needle-work, painting, embroidery, etc., prepared by the ladies of the Kayastha Prabhu Community in connection with the Silver Jubilee of the Kayastha Prabhu Social Club, Thana.

BASSEIN PILGRIMAGE.

The Annual Pilgrimage to the Bassein Port in honour of St. Gonsalo Garcia will take place on Sunday the 14th proximo. The Solemn High Mass will begin 12 a.m. (S.T.) at which His Grace, the Archbishop—Bishop of Damaun will be present. There will be low Masses every half an hour from 8-30 a.m. to 11-30 a.m. Boats will be available at Bhayndar and tongas at Bassein Road Station, as on previous occasions.

The official rate of exchange on the Mexican dollar for December 1916, will be two shillings and three pence at Hongkong and China stations.

MAHRATTA EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE.

UPLIFT OF DEPRESSED CLASSES.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)

SATARA, Dec. 27.

The Tenth Mahratta (non-Brahmins) Provincial Educational Conference met at the Old Palace, otherwise known as High School Square, this afternoon, Shrimant Sahasiveirao alias Rajasaheb Pawar, brother of the Maharajah of Devas (Junior), presiding. A large number of delegates from this and other Deccan, Karnatic and Berar districts and Bombay were present. The Mahratta States from the Deccan and Central India were fairly represented.

The proceedings began with a welcome speech from Mr. Yesnvantrao alias Nanasaheb Gujar (Satara), Vice Chairman of the Reception Committee. On the motion of Khaserao Jadhav of Baroda, President took the Chair and delivered his address. At the outset he regretted the deaths of the late Shrimant Mudhoji Naik Nimbalkar, the Chief of Phaltan (Satara Collectorate) and the Hon. D. A. Khare. He exhorted his fellow caste-men to avail themselves of the facilities within their reach, to educate their backward brothren and to try to ameliorate their present depressed condition by doing away with many evil customs such as the Dowry system, the Pardah (Gosha) system, the drink and so forth. He recommended the conference to raise a special war relief fund with a view to help the families of the brave Mahratta soldiers, who have been falling victims in the present world-wide war, which he felt sure would result in favour of Great Britain and her brave Allies. He dealt exhaustively with their defects and appealed to them to awaken to the needs of the hour.

After the presidential address was over, the permanent Vice-President of the Conference Committee read the names of the gentlemen who had sent the Conference sympathetic messages the more prominent among them being the Chiefs of Akalkot, Jath, Ichalkaranji and Aundh; the heads of several Collectorates, including Satara, Dharwar, Ratnagiri, and other places; the Hon. Mr. Parekh, the Hon. Mr. Paranjpye, the Hon. Dewan B. Godbole, Hon. Mr. Kamat, the Hon. Mr. Lalubhai Samaldas, Mr. M. V. Joshi of Amraoti and Mr. Ewbank, I.C.S., Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

Mr. Ramchandrarao Vandekar of Bombay and the General Secretary of the Conference gave a concise report of the progress made by various public spirited Mahratta Associations during the year throughout the Deccan and the Berars, in the matter of giving relief to many a poor Mahratta student.

Mr. Bhaskerrao Jadhav, a Kolhapur State Officer, alluded with satisfaction to the changed angle of vision of their Brahmin brethren towards their endeavours, unlike their forefathers in the times of the Peshwas. But he exhorted his brother hearers to try to stand on their own legs in the matter of improving their status.

Mr. V. R. Shinde of the Bombay and Poona Depressed Classes Mission made a stirring appeal to his non-Brahmin workers to leave no stone unturned in lifting up their fellow brothers.

HUMANITARIANS IN CONFERENCE.

BENEFICIAL ACTIVITIES IN BOMBAY.

At the Humanitarian Conference held at Lucknow, on Monday, under the Presidentship of Mr. B. G. Horniman, Mr. Chhaganlal P. Nanavaty, Assistant Manager of the Bombay Humanitarian Fund, gave an account of the activities of the Fund, in the course of which he said:—

Our aims and objects are:—(1) To educate public opinion regarding the advantages of vegetarian diet from the health, economy, temperance and mercy points of view; (2) to take up strictly non-political questions of human welfare such as treatment of widows, murders of children for ornaments, etc.; (3) to appeal to the authorities as well as to the people to discontinue cruel fashions and ceremonies; (4) to try to protect animals as well as birds from all kinds of cruelty; (5) to carry on our Mission in such a way as not to wound the feelings of any community.

Our income is derived from subscriptions by generous men and charitable and mercantile institutions. Our expenditure consists mainly in spreading our literature on the scientific efficacy of vegetarian diet and in the various numerous languages in which our books are to be translated. We have also to spend very largely in communications and correspondence.

That such a pious, noble, generous and divine cause should succeed is beyond any doubt. And what are the results achieved during the last six years of the existence of the institution? They are:—(1) decrease in slaughter by thousands every year recorded on authentic figures supplied to us by the Municipalities of various towns in India; (2) general prohibition by nearly 200 rulers of Native States, of slaughter of animals on religious sacrificial occasions, in their respective States; (3) very large diffusion of scientific knowledge gained by publishing the essays written for prizes awarded every year at an expense of about Rs. 1,500 on subjects pertaining to vegetarianism and horrors of various other cruelties on animals; (4) conversion daily progressive of many persons into vegetarians.

We have been receiving donations from various men and we hope to receive more and more sympathetic help from every quarter in India; yet it would not be out of place to tell you here that we have to encounter certain difficulties. If so far this appeals to you gentlemen, it would be a very satisfactory movement if by your efforts similar institutions can be started in the different places from which all of us have gathered here. The number of such societies is increasing every year and I am glad to say that to-day there are no less than 50 of them.

INDIAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY.

LORD PENTLAND ON INDIA'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE SCIENCE.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)

MADRAS, Dec. 27.

His Excellency the Governor opened to-day the first conference of the Indian Mathematical Society at the Presidency College which was attended by a large number of leading mathematicians from the various parts of the Presidency, besides several from Bombay.

In the course of his speech in declaring the conference open his Excellency said:—The methods of mathematics play an increasing and important part in the discussion and elucidation of numerous problems in sociology, economics and other studies, in the expanding complex of our environment, and it is a matter of great moment that among those who have to deal with these studies should be a body of men, who are accustomed to the rigorous principles of mathematical proof, and who find intellectual relaxation and refreshment in keeping themselves informed of modern developments in what is, I suppose, the oldest science in the world. Moreover, it is, at any rate, a science which has always made a strong appeal to Indian intellect, and has received from it important contributions. It is, for example, I suppose probable that to India we owe the decimal notation and the invention of Algebra, and India can point to at least one epoch in which it produced a number of brilliant mathematicians and astronomers. Is there any reason why such an epoch should not recur? None that I can see.

A BRILLIANT INDIAN STUDENT.

At the present time a young Indian student, Mr. S. Ramanujam (cheers) is studying at Cambridge whose career, we in Southern India, are watching with keen interest and high anticipations. You know the story of the discovery of his unusual talent, and all here will be glad to hear how entirely he is justifying the efforts which were made to give it full scope. I shall quote merely one sentence from a letter written from Cambridge by one of the most distinguished mathematicians of the present day. "In him" he says, "India now possesses a pure mathematician of the first order, whose achievements suggest the brightest hopes for its scientific future." Gentlemen, not a few Indians have earned high distinctions in the Cambridge schools. Some of them, I believe, are members of the Society, and they will be able to realise what is required to earn a encomium of this nature. We may be sure, however, that if India is to make permanent contributions to this the most international of all sciences the creation of a favourable environment is essential. By the provision of post-graduate scholarships and of opportunities for post-graduate research, the Madras University is, I am glad to say, doing something to secure this, and will, I hope, when more favourable times come, do more. Your society too can do much, and I heartily wish success to your efforts to foster interest and increase the number of workers in mathematical research.

DADAR LEVEL CROSSING.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE CHRONICLE."

Sir,—In your popular paper of the 15th May, 1916, a letter by P. K. J. was published by you under the heading of "Dadar Level Crossing." The nuisance complained of in that letter has become intolerable. When I drew the attention of the Agent to the above referred letter from your paper, the secretary replied me, under his letter No. 119-c/5, dated 5th August, 1916, as follows:—

"With reference to your letter dated 15th June 1916, I have to inform you that the wicket gates referred to, are only closed against pedestrian traffic on the actual near approach of a train and seldom remain closed for longer than a few minutes at a time. If, of course, two goods trains should be passing at about the same time the gates have to remain closed rather longer.

2. In regard to the proposal to extend the existing overbridge this would not be practicable. This overbridge is intended solely for inter-communication between the three platforms at Dadar, and if we extend it, it would be difficult to maintain a check on passengers and prevent people travelling without tickets. The use of this bridge is now restricted, as was the intention, to passengers.

3. Eventually an overbridge will be provided at the north end of the station from the eastern side right across the lines of the G. I. P. and B. B. and C. I. Railways to the western side for both vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

4. Under these circumstances I do not see the necessity for the provision of a temporary foot overbridge or extension of the existing one.

5. In regard to the crowding near the level crossing gates by hawkers, etc., the road here is outside the railway premises and the Commissioner of Police has been addressed in the matter."

This reply, as you will see, is in accordance with the general policy of the present Railway authorities. The Railway authorities have a settled policy of their own of dealing with the public complaints. I do not know what prayer of ours to these "demigods" shall stir up the subtle string within them to strike a sympathetic chord. No reasonable argument of ours will satisfy them. Once I drew the attention of the District Traffic Superintendent of the G. I. P. Railway to the fact that supply of the suburban service time-tables (which are theoretically meant to be distributed gratis among *all* season-ticket holders) at Kurla is inadequate to the number of pass-holders. The station master says that he cannot provide every pass-holder with this gratis time-table because he receives a very limited supply—less than one-fifth of the number of season-ticket holders. After many reminders and replies the Superintendent had the goodness to reply me as follows under his letter No. R. 154, dated 15th February, 1916: "We are at present printing a very large number of copies of the above suburban time-table and I regret that owing to an enhanced cost for printing, we cannot see our way to increase the number.

"If you could make it convenient to apply to the station master earlier than you do, I have no doubt he would give you a copy."

When such minor grievances (and they are too many to be mentioned here) are unattended to, is it possible to expect the redress of grievances which may involve expenditure? Need I say that it is time for our benign Government to awaken the Railway authorities to a true realisation of their responsibilities in the matter of giving attention to the interests of public safety, and convenience.—Yours, etc.,

VISHNU V. OKA.

Parsi Fire Temple Compound,
Dadar, Dec. 25, 1916.

CALCUTTA RACES.

FIRST MEETING: THIRD DAY.

(From our Correspondent.)

CALCUTTA, Dec. 28.

Large fields ruled in every race and the attendance though slightly smaller than on the two previous meetings, was very large. The day proved disastrous to backers as no favourites came home. Mr. Goculdas ran first, second and third in the Cooch Behar Cup which was an unique performance. The time also constitutes a record.

Details:—

THE X'MAS HANDICAP. Division I.—Distance 6 Furlongs.

Mr. Lindsay's TOLLENDAL, 8-12, Ruiz ... 1
Messrs. Donetil and Fage's GUESS, 9-7, Templeman ... 2
Mr. Galstaun's BATTLEHURST, 8-7, Wing ... 3

Also Ran:—Star of India 8-10, Final Proof 8-7, Hospodar 8-2, Sungribe 8-1, Catch 7-13 and Saltikoff 7-7 (cd. 7-12).

Betting:—Twos Guess, 5 to 2 Star of India, fives Battlehurst and Final Proof, sixes Saltikoff and Tollendal, longer prices the rest.

Totes Paid:—Win Rs. 64. Places Rs. 21, Rs. 18 and Rs. 25.

THE X'MAS HANDICAP. Division II.—Distance 6 Furlongs.

Mr. Dee's TOBIQUE, 7-13, Lynch ... 1
Mr. Donetil's LITTLE STAR, 8-9, Ruiz ... 2
Prince Victor Narayan's HIT OR MISS, 8-0, Barrett ... 3

Also Ran:—Hookkoo 8-1, Done Again 9-3, Bisley 8-8, Zeela 8-6, Gracefield 8-3, White Sapphire 8-1.

Betting:—5 to 4 Little Star, fours Gracefield and Done Again, sevens Tobique, longer prices the rest.

Totes Paid:—Win Rs. 95. Places Rs. 21, Rs. 14 and Rs. 42.

THE SANDOWN PARK PLATE.—Distance 6 Furlongs.

Mr. Lander's SYMREX, 8-2, Stokes ... 1
Mr. Goculdas' VERGE, 8-3, Huxley ... 2
Mr. Thaddeus' PASTIME, 8-8, Ruiz ... 3

Also Ran:—Pantomime 7-10, Patrick 9-9, Radiant 9-3, Widgiewa 7-12, Orepesa 6-7 (cd. 7-0).

Betting:—5 to 4 Verge, fours Patrick and Pastime, twelves Radiant and Symrex, fifteens the rest.

Totes Paid:—Win Rs. 178. Places Rs. 31, Rs. 14 and Rs. 16.

THE GUNNY MEAH CUP.—Distance 1½ Miles.

Mr. Galstaun's WALLACE PLAID, 6-13, Purtoosingh ... 1
Mr. Norton's SIMON'S HIGHT, 7-0, Vincent ... 2
Mr. Bates' MASONIC, 7-5, Firth ... 3

Also Ran:—Naini 7-3, (cd. 7-7), Spring Daisy 7-2, Yod 7-13, Dolly Schomberg 7-7 (cd. 7-8), Oriflamme 7-0 (cd 7-3), Sidonia 6-7 (cd. 7-2).

Betting:—6 to 4 Simon's Light, fours Masonic, sixes Spring Daisy and Dolly Schomberg, any price the rest.

Totes Paid:—Win Rs. 261. Places Rs. 64, Rs. 18 and Rs. 21.

THE COOCH BEHAR CUP.—Distance 1½ Miles.

Mr. Goculdas' POLITIAN, 8-12, Huxley... 1
Mr. Goculdas' MATCHLOCK, 7-5, Flynn. 2
Mr. Goculdas' ROYAL AMBITION 7-6, Purtoosingh ... 3

Also Ran:—Dersingham 8-5, Silver Balm 9-10, Bachelor's Wedding 9-10, Bydand 8-10, Evett 8-6, Aberdare 8-5, St. Andrews 7-12, The Rocking Horse 7-9, Second Edition 7-8, Santa Barbara 7-2 (cd. 7-3), Boss Lee 6-11 (cd. 6-12), Shining Way 6-7.

Betting:—Fours St. Andrews, fives Silver Balm, sixes Second Edition, eights Evett, tens Bachelor's Wedding, Politian, Bydand, Royal Ambition and Santa Barbara, twenties to fifties the rest.

Totes Paid:—Win Rs. 118. Places Rs. 44, Rs. 71 and Rs. 42.

THE LAWN PLATE, Division I, Distance 7 Furlongs.

Mr. Ainsworth's VANITY BOX, 8-9, Rose.
Mr. Pallonji's PENNY PIE, 7-8, Flynn.
Mr. R. R. S.'s STAGELAND, 7-12, Purtoosing ...

Also Ran:—Miletus 9-9, Eagle's Nest 9-5, Premiere 8-9, Aquasolis 8-2, Ironprufe 7-11.

Betting:—3 to 2 Miletus, fives Vanity Box, sevens Stageland, longer prices the rest.

Totes Paid:—Win Rs. 64. Places Rs. 20, Rs. 25 and Rs. 24.

THE LAWN PLATE, Division II., Distance six furlongs.

Mr. Ainsworth's CARPENTIA, 8-13, Rose. 1
H. H. Genl. Obaidulla Khan's LADY MURIEL, 8-12, Bowley ...
Messrs. Swan and Hilliard's COLOUR BAY, 9-0, Vick ... 3

Also Ran:—Yuan 8-13, Bodenham 8-4, Lebanon 8-2, Drill Mistress 7-13, Dunskey 7-3.

Betting:—3 to 2 Yuan, 7 to 2 Carpentia, sevens Lady Muriel, Colour Bay and Dunskey, twelves the rest.

Totes Paid:—Win Rs. 41. Places Rs. 20, Rs. 36 and Rs. 25.

POLO IN CALCUTTA.

HANDICAP TOURNAMENT.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)

CALCUTTA, Dec. 27.

There were two games in the second round of the Carmichael Polo Cup Tournament, both of which were played off this evening on the polo ground. The first was between the Viceroy's Staff and the Northern Bengal Mounted Rifles. Handicappers conceded two goals plus to the former, who altogether proved the much better side. They scored no less than eight goals to their opponents' two and thus won the game by ten goals to two.

The second game was between the Gimlets and Cachar. The latter were better mounted and were better players and succeeded in scoring two goals to their opponents' nill, but as the Gimlets were given five goals plus by the handicappers they were declared the winners by five goals to two.

Their Excellencies Lady Chelmsford and Lady Carmichael were present from the commencement of the game and later their Excellencies Lord Chelmsford and Lord Carmichael motored down and stayed till the games were over.

BURMA BANK.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)

RANGOON, Dec. 28.

Mr. Justice Robinson has passed orders on the resolutions recently passed at the Bombay and Calcutta meetings of the creditors of the Bank of Burma. His Honour has directed that dividends to creditors of sums below Rs. 3,000, be paid in cash and those for and above that sum be paid in the Rangoon Oil Co.'s debentures at Rs. 15 and the B. B. Co.'s shares at par (8s.).

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THE BOMBAY CHRONICLE.
Friday, December 29, 1916.

THE SETTLEMENT.

The Lucknow session of the Indian National Congress will be memorable for a variety of reasons. Its distinguishing quality, to our mind, has been the spirit of reality that has pervaded and informed its proceedings. There was nothing academic about its discussions, nothing theoretical about its demands. The dominant note has been one of practical earnestness, directed to action and not mere speculation. The most complete endorsement of this view is to be found in the graphic account which our Special Correspondent sends of the settlement of the delicate and tangled Hindu-Mahomedan question. The significance of the *rapprochement*, we think, will not be lost upon any serious student of Indian affairs, not excluding that erstwhile expert, Sir Valentine Chirol. It marks the decisive, and as we hope and believe, lasting achievement of Indian political unity. But its implications are deeper: the settlement will remain a landmark in the evolution of Indian Nationalism as a spiritual entity. For our present purpose, however, it will suffice to consider the main political aspect of the Entente which began in Bombay and has now so happily been completed at Lucknow. If ever a movement had a stormy inception it was this scheme of Hindu-Mahomedan union. Apart altogether from the artificial obstacles that were placed in its way at the outset,—of which no one at least in Bombay needs to be informed or reminded,—there were inherent elements of almost insurmountable difficulty in the consummation of the movement, upon which were centred the best hopes of Indian peace and progress. How difficult and how subtle were these barriers to an enduring understanding between the two great communities of India only those can appreciate who know at first hand the force of Indian sentiment. And the merit of the Lucknow settlement is all the greater in that it was reached not by a play of impulse, but by a slow, patient, almost painful, process of reasoning and deliberation. Our Special Correspondent has drawn a vivid picture of the earnestness, sincerity, and true patriotism which animated both sections of the conclave. That was the appropriate spirit to have inspired a reconciliation that must spell, in its ultimate expression, the redemption of India. The prospect of national unity and harmony that has been opened up must be as pleasing and gratifying to every friend of India as it must, we fear, be correspondingly disconcerting to others. What of those who have exploited for years the Hindu-Mahomedan "question"? Othello's occupation, we think, is gone.

"PREPARING INDIA."

The Hon. Mr. Ambicacharan Mazumdar rightly laid special emphasis on the question of education as illustrating that clear conflict between the forces of an old constitution tenaciously clung to by the bureaucracy and the new spirit pulsating the minds of the people. As he pointed out, in a country which is larger than the continent of Europe excepting Russia, there are now no more than 150 colleges of all sorts and a little over 1,300 high schools and 1,72,000 primary schools for the education of a population of 255 millions, yielding at present barely 7 literate men per cent. Of this vast numercial aggregate, two-thirds of the number of the colleges, it may be noted, and three-fourths of the high schools are private institutions. "This," he added, "is the sum-total of educational progress made under a benevolent despotism during a period of 160 years and imagination fails to pierce into the dim and distant future when even half the population of this vast continent shall be so far advanced as to be able to read and write their names. That is how education stands in the country after more than one and a half centuries of British rule, and yet a modest Bill introduced by a Congressman for Elementary Education was thrown out with a few complimentary platitudes. The people demand a general diffusion of elementary education for the mass as preferable to no education, while the Government insists upon better education for a few rather than wide-spread light for the many. No one can reasonably object to quality of education for the few being improved, but a belief has gained ground in the public mind, not without some show of reason, that Government has begun to view the educational problem with suspicion and distrust and to reverse the engine for a backward motion." We have purposely quoted this long extract; for, it summarises clearly as well as forcibly the essential features of the present situation as regards educational progress, and of the policy which, especially in recent years, has defeated the object aimed at in the historic despatch of 1854,—the great charter of education in India.

The Resolution of the Government of Bombay on the Report of the Director of Public Instruction for the year 1915-16, far from dispelling these melancholy reflections, is only calculated to strengthen them. The Resolution begins with the statement that "the year under review saw an increase in the number both of educational institutions in the Presidency and of pupils attending them." An examination of the figures given, however, shows how meagre the advance has been. The number of institutions rose from 13,494 to 13,582, and the number of pupils from 7,89,709 to 7,99,273,—the increase being only one of 8 in the one case, and of 9,564 in the other. That during the course of one whole year the number of educational institutions should have increased only by 8 and the number of pupils receiving education by 9,564 can by no stretch of imagination be called progress in view of the area and the population of the Presidency. When, however, only public institutions are considered, the progress is found to be more illusory still. The total number of public institutions decreased, and not increased, from 11,566, to 11,521, though there was a slight increase of 4,020 pupils attending them. But it is as regards primary education that the most deplorable state of things is found to exist. The number of primary schools for boys *decreased* by 132 and the number of pupils attending them by 5,938, that is, from 5,94,728 to 5,88,790. It is difficult to contemplate this achievement of the Education Department with any degree of patience. While there are only 4 in every hundred of the population in the Presidency under instruction, one might have expected that strenuous efforts would have been made by the Department to bring about a wider diffusion of education. Before the war, the Government of Bombay had given a definite undertaking that every year 500 more primary schools would be started. That programme was outlined in 1911. Until the outbreak of the war, some attempt was made to fulfil the undertaking at least partially. With the outbreak of the war, in the name of financial stringency, no scruple was made to throw the promise to the winds. That attitude was most disappointing to the people of the Presidency. But they possessed their souls in patience in the hope that if no acceleration of progress was to be permitted, the little progress that had been attained would at least be maintained. And what a disillusionment has awaited them! Not only no addition was made to the number of primary schools for boys,—though there are hundreds of villages in the Presidency without any school,—but a substantial number of villages which had a school were deprived of it. It should be superfluous at this time to emphasise the need of as wide and constant a diffusion of education in this country as possible. That need was best expressed on the memorable occasion of the Coronation Durbar in 1911 when Lord Hardinge announced, among other Royal boons, that:—

> Humbly and dutifully submissive to his Most Gracious Majesty's will and pleasure, the Government of India have resolved, with the approval of his Imperial Majesty's Secretary of State, to acknowledge the predominant claims of educational advancement on the resources of the Indian Empire and have decided in recognition of a very commendable demand to direct themselves to make education in India as accessible and wide as possible

That the claims of education are as great in times of war as in peace, is demonstrated by the anxious consideration which most of the belligerent countries,—especially Great Britain, are devoting to it. The appointment of an eminent educationist like Mr. H. A. L. Fisher as the Minister of Education is only one among many signs. That Lord Willingdon is no less alive to this fact has been demonstrated on several occasions when his Excellency has thought fit to speak on the subject. He defined the principle of the position with singular emphasis when not many months ago he said in a public speech that "war or no war, education must go on." But it is a principle which has not been lived up to by his own Government, for it is Lord Willingdon's Government who, having in the first year of war enforced rigorous economy in expenditure on education, further persisted in their unwise and short-sighted policy in the second year of the war with the unfortunate results that have already been indicated. The financial statistics for the year show that, in spite of the low figure of expenditure in the previous year, the contribution from provincial funds was less by as much as over seven lakhs of rupees and the very small increase in the total expenditure on public instruction has been due to the wiser and far more generous policy adopted in this repect by the municipalities and local bodies, who spent four lakhs more than in the year previous, fees and miscellaneous resources also accounting for an increase of about three lakhs and a half. "The general financial stringency prevailing throughout the year," we are told, "not only precluded grants for opening new schools and improving the pay and prospects of the teaching staff, (an ancient grievance yet unredressed) but practically put an end to all building operations, the expenditure on buildings and equipment being little more than half of that in 1914-15." And yet, while general education and the lower educational services were practically starved, there was sufficient money available to increase the already heavy percentage of expenditure on direction and inspection from 10 in 1914-15 to 12 in the year under review. Well might Mr. Ambica Charan Mazumdar say: "Depth may be preferred to surface, but a top-heavy construction is always unsafe to any structure even with the deepest foundation which human ingenuity can devise." It is not uninstructive to point out that the same Government which practised economy with a vengeance on educational expenditure in 1915-16, increased its expenditure in the same year on Police to Rs. 104.14 lakhs from Rs. 101.66 lakhs; on Excise Establishment to Rs. 11.72 lakhs from Rs. 11.43; on Political Department to Rs. 5.37 lakhs from Rs. 5.15 lakhs, on Forests to Rs. 27.23 lakhs from Rs. 24.87 lakhs and on Miscellaneous to Rs. 7.48 lakhs from Rs. 5.18 lakhs. Comment is superfluous.

Notes of the Day.

The Prospects of Peace.

President Wilson's last Note has met with a degree of serious consideration that must be as gratifying to him as it is surprising to others. The essential indiscretion of his overtures notwithstanding, it is not to be denied that the war in its latest phases has assumed an intensity which could not fail to tell upon the few neutrals who still remain outside the nominal zone of the conflagration. This was shown by the ready support which Switzerland first, and now Sweden, have given to the American proposal. Germany's response was characteristic. It began with a fusillade of abuse directed at the United States,—followed by the suggestion of an immediate meeting of the belligerents to discuss peace! The Allies, of course, are not going to allow themselves to be either hustled or misled. Their reply to the German Peace Note, which is being drafted in Paris, will be sure to be inspired by a long-sighted adherence to the principles by which they stand, and which they have so heroically defended.

A Piquant Interlude.

There was a piquant interlude at the second day's proceedings of the National Congress at Lucknow when Sir James Meston graced the occasion with his presence. According to the general impression of the public his Honour's relations with the Congress were not exactly friendly,—thanks to the egregious indiscretion of the U. P. Executive on the eve of the Congress. In commenting on that gratuitously irritating episode at the time, we suggested, it may be remembered, that the Lieutenant-Governor's personal responsibility in the matter was open to doubt: he had been committed by his advisers. This view derived considerable support from the conciliatory attidue that was in evidence as soon as, it may be presumed, the voice of criticism and just remonstrance had reached the ears of his Honour. We had first the announcement of the permission accorded to Government servants to attend the Congress, and then came the news of Sir James Meston's intention to attend the Congress in person. He was given yesterday an enthusiastic reception by the Congress and its President, and his Honour's reply was couched in terms of genuine cordiality. Why should this spirit of mutual goodwill be the exception, rather than the rule, in the administration of the United Provinces?

The Health of the City.

The conditions of health in Bombay took a slight turn for the worse last week, the general death-rate mounting up from 26.59 to as much as 29.20. The chief factors contributing to this unfortunate deterioration were plague, malaria and infantile mortality. Plague registered 15 attacks and 12 deaths, being 8 attacks and 6 deaths more than in the previous week, while the mortality from malaria amounted to ten cases, while in the previous week only a single fatal case had been reported. Cholera, which had been absent, registered two attacks and two deaths, while small-pox registered one attack, during the week. The mortality from the other principal diseases was as follows:—enteric 4, diarrhoea 24, dysentery 14, phthisis 29, other diseases of the respiratory system 178, and tubercular diseases 8. The total number of deaths was 550, as compared with 501 of the preceding week. There were 462 live births during the week, in addition to 13 premature births and 35 still-births.

Suspended Animation.

Mr. Ambica Charan Mazumdar pointed out in his presidential address to the Congress that if the reform of separating the unholy combination of judicial and executive functions had been carried out, one half of the causes of the present discontent would have vanished. He recalled how "Sir Harvey Adamson was reported to have actually gone so far as to submit a scheme for the proposed reform in 1908" and how "all sorts of speculations have been affoat in recent years; but nobody knows where the proposal sticks and where it now rests,—whether on the dusty upper shelves of the Indian Secretariat at Simla or in the archives of the India Office at Whitehall." The reply given to a question on the subject by the Hon. Mr. K. B. Dutt at a recent meeting of the Bengal Legislative Council well proves the truth of Mr. Mazumdar's remarks that the fate of this important question is a striking commentary on the spirit of bureaucratic rule, which is nervous at the thought of parting with the narrowest shred of authority. Mr. Dutt asked:

> "whether any scheme for the separation of the executive and judicial functions has been submitted to the Government of this Presidency or to the public for criticism," or "whether any experiment has been made in this Presidency" in the same direction.

And the reply was that "no step has been taken in the matter on the lines indicated by Sir Harvey Adamson in his speech on March 27, 1908."

Protection of Children.

It is gratifying to learn that efforts are being made to revive the defunct Society for the Protection of Children which died a very early death some years ago in Bombay. That the need of a Society of this character has long been most keenly felt does not require any emphasis. There are few problems of a City like Bombay which deserve a more constant and vigilant attention than the condition of the children who, through misfortune or neglect, are thrown on the streets. There are indeed a number or orphanages in Bombay; but, owing to many difficulties such as caste consideration many of the street children cannot be brought within their range, while there are also many others for whom the existing orphanages have neither funds nor accommodation. The objects of the Society, as indicated in the letter from Mr. Wardlaw-Milne, which we published on Monday are to take over and extend the existing Children's Refuge, and to build and equip an Orphanage or Home outside the City for those children who cannot be suitably dealt with by existing institutions. Equally important will be the work of initiating and supporting legislation for the suppression of cruelty to children, and generally of rescuing children from the streets, the Police Courts and the Jails. No limits can be set to the beneficial results of the activities of the proposed Society provided they are as well-directed as they are well conceived. We heartily wish the movement every success.

Temperance and Liquor Control.

In the course of his presidential address to the All-India Temperance Conference, the Hon. Mr. Sarma made a suggestion that is of the highest importance at the moment. Early in the war, Mr. Lloyd George pointed out that England had to fight two enemies,—Germany and drink,—and that the latter was the stronger of the two. In spite of the example of total abstinence shown by Russia and France, the vested interests of liquor traffic have proved too strong to enable the British Government to follow suit, though indications are not wanting to show that the step may very soon be taken. As regards India, however, there is no reason why, as Mr. Sarma suggested, the Government and temperance reformers should not place total abstinence as the ultimate object to be kept in view. With the average Indian, drink is not among the necessaries of life, and the best traditions of the social, let alone religious, life of the people, are opposed to any indulgence in it. At any rate the time has come for some action in the way of rational restriction. Mr. Sarma's suggestions that the duty on foreign liquor should be raised, and that the sale of drink under Government or municipal control on the ticket system might be tried in select areas, are reasonable and practical.

Cane-Making for Disabled Soldiers.

According to the London correspondent of the "Manchester Guardian" an interesting experiment in starting a new English industry for disabled soldiers is being carried out at Wimbledon: The prospects of the new trade are good. Before the war it was entirely in the hands of the Germans. The ratten cane, imported chiefly from British North Borneo, used to be reshipped from London to Hamburg for manufacture. There is at present a very great demand for manufactured cane in furnishing basket-work,—including cases for munitions,—and recently some London importers have started factories in connection with their warehouses, employing women's labour. A mechanic in one of these South London factories has invented a simple machine for cutting the cane which costs about £30, as against £300, the cost of the German machines. This machine can be easily worked by a discharged soldier with one arm. The trade believes that the industry is suitable for the employment of discharged soldiers, and that it has a commercial future here if freightage difficulties allow of an adequate supply of the raw material, at any rate at the present war price of the manufactured article, which is about 150 per cent. above the normal.

Compulsory Education in Pudkotah.

The other day several members of the Representative Assembly of Pudkotah suggested that the State should follow the example of Baroda in adopting the system of compulsory education. The Resident, Mr. Burn, received the suggestion most unsympathetically and, being in want of any reasonable justification for his attitude, attempted ineffectually to take refuge behind the old hedge of "financial difficulty." On the basis of population, he said, the land revenue of Baroda is more than double that of Pudukotah, and on the basis of area it is one and a half times as great. "Baroda," he continued, "in 1914-15, after spending more than 18 lakhs on education, had a surplus of 44 lakhs for that year alone, and at the close of the year its assets exceeded its liabilities by 526 lakhs." The Resident, while he was at pains to show that the resources of Pudukotah were not anything like those of Baroda, conveniently refrained from giving any comparative figures. Mr. Burn also tried to find a stumbling block in the attitude of the parents. "Last year" he said, "a member of the Assembly observed that if all the boys were to be compelled to attend school it would be necessary to compensate the parents for the loss of their labour." The hardship referred to will certainly exist, but it is no more an argument against compulsory education than the fact that at the other end of the scale there will be parents who can well afford to send their boys to school without the inducement of remission of fees. Moreover, apart from the fact that economic inequalities, however unfortunate, exist even in countries which have adopted compulsory education, the argument loses sight of the all important truth that education is the birth right of every human child,—whatever the circumstance in which he or she may be placed,—and that a corresponding duty is laid on the State to see that it is imparted to him or her, all other possible considerations notwithstanding.

INDIAN REPRESENTATION IN WAR CONFERENCE.

WELCOMED BY THE BRITISH PRESS.

INDIA IN EMPIRE WAR CONFERENCE.

WELCOMED BY BRITISH PRESS.

DUE WEIGHT TO INDIAN OPINION URGED.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

LONDON, Dec. 27.
Recd. 8 a.m., Dec. 28.

All the papers warmly and enthusiastically welcome the forthcoming Empire War Council as a landmark in the history of the Empire and the fulfilment of the aims of the greatest Empire builders. It is hoped that it will also facilitate the Irish settlement.

The newspapers applaud the decision that India shall be specially represented. "The Times" says India is to be given a place in the Conference to which her enthusiastic and devoted support of the Imperial cause in the war entitles her. The extension of the invitation to India suggests that the Government does not anticipate any objection from the Dominions. India, indeed, has buttressed a claim already very strong by the splendour of her devotion to the Imperial tie in the time of war. The Government now shows that it recognises her desire and strongly sympathises with her legitimate moderate aspirations.

The "Daily Mail" says the representation of India by Mr. Chamberlain and two skilled advisers from India will give due weight to the Indian opinion in the War Cabinet, as is only right after the noble contribution which the Indian Army and the Princes have made to the cause of freedom in the war.

The "Daily Chronicle" says it is right and proper that India should be represented at the Imperial War Conference for her interests are vitally concerned. The vast population has remained peaceable and loyal and her ruling Chiefs and others have given many touching examples of devotion to the Empire.

The "Daily News" says the presence of the representatives of India beside the Premiers of the Dominions will mark the opening of a new epoch. It will be a profound disappointment if it is not decided that at least one of the spokesmen from India shall be an Indian.

LAHORE PRESS COMMENTS.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)

LAHORE, Dec. 28.

Referring to the Secretary of State's message regarding India's representation in the special War Council the "Civil and Military Gazette" in the course of a leading article writes:—"It is a decisive recognition that India's loyalty and the work of her soldiers on imperial battlefields have won her the right to be consulted as to the conduct of war and the terms of peace." The paper concludes:—"We echo the hope expressed in several quarters that it will be found possible to nominate an Indian as one of the officials who will assist the Secretary of State. There is good reason to suppose that the war has enlarged the view of the Self-governing Dominions in regard to many Indian questions and the more we can bring responsible Colonial statesmen into touch with leading Indians the more likely will they be able to develop a sympathetic attitude towards Indian problems. Moreover, it is of utmost importance that India should understand the reality of this change in her status and the nomination of an Indian official would appear alike to sentiment and to common sense. It would be a practical demonstration of the new relationships created by the sharing of a common peril, an assurance of progress towards the realisation of common ideals.

JAPAN AND CHINA.

DEADLOCK ON CHINCHIATUM AFFAIR.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)

ALLAHABAD, Dec. 28.

The "Pioneer's" Tokio correspondent writes:—Knowing the Premier to be man, who always does more than he says the Japanese are now anticipating great things from him in the way of adjusting relations with China. Negotiations going between Tokyo and Pekin over the Chinchiatum affair appear to have reached a deadlock. News has leaked out that Tokyo has instructed the Japanese Ambassador at Pekin to issue a warning to the Chinese authorities urging the hastening of the conclusions and that the Japanese demands be promptly satisfied.

Reports that Provincial officials as well as high military officers in China have sent petitions to Pekin advising the rejection of certain of the Japanese demands have caused some degree of umbrage in Tokyo, and further warnings have been sent to have these extra diplomatic influences kept out of the discussion.

DEATH OF SIR JESSE HERBERT.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

LONDON, Dec. 27.
Recd. 1 p.m., Dec. 28.

The death is announced of Sir Jesse Herbert.

GERMAN PEACE NOTE.

ALLIED REPLY BEING DRAFTED IN PARIS.

NO OFFICIAL ACTION TO BE TAKEN ON OTHER NOTES.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

LONDON, Dec. 27.
Recd. 2-55 p.m., Dec. 28.

Reuter learns that the Allied reply to the German Peace Note is being drafted in Paris, and that the Allies are mutually communicating on the subject. It is not likely that official action will be taken in regard to answering the American and Swiss Notes until the German Note has been dealt with.

ALLIES' REPLY APPROVED BY ALL.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL WAR SERVICE.)

LONDON, Dec. 28.
Recd. 6-15 p.m., Dec. 28.

The "Daily Telegraph" says the text of the Allies' reply to Germany has been approved by all the Allies. It will make it clear to the belligerents and the neutrals alike that no hope need be entertained of ever persuading the Allies to surrender a potential victory for the sake of peace which would be only a German peace so long as German militarism is unbroken.

JOCKEYING ALLIES INTO FALSE POSITION.

GERMAN VIOLATION OF ALL DIPLOMATIC COURTESIES.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL WAR SERVICE.)

LONDON, Dec. 28.
Recd. 6-15 p.m., Dec. 28.

Germany's latest move is regarded as another adroit attempt to rush the Allies into the so-called peace conference at any cost with the object of jockeying them into a false position in the eyes of the neutrals. uBt last night's bombshell is not likely to have the desired effect in America, since Germany, which has persistently refused to reveal her peace terms, deliberately ignores President Wilson's appeal to both sides to place their cards on the table. Moreover Germany has violated all diplomatic courtesies by allowing the publication of the Note in Berlin before its receipt at Washington, President Wilson receiving the first news from journalists.

GERMANY'S DECEITFUL MACHINATIONS

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

PARIS, Dec. 27.
Recd. 6-15 a.m., Dec. 29.

French opinion with regard to the German reply, shows that Germany wants the German hand in peace which would be wrenched from the Allies by a ruse in default of strength to obtain it forcibly and that Germany's deceitful machinations justify the Allies' determination to fight.

PEACE APPEAL BY SWEDEN.

ADDRESSED TO NEUTRALS AND BELLIGERENTS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.
Recd. 2-55 p.m., Dec. 28.

It is officially announced that Sweden has addressed a peace appeal to the belligerents and neutrals.

ENGLISH PRESS AND DR. WILSON'S NOTE.

ALLEGED MISUNDERSTANDING.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)

ALLAHABAD, Dec. 28.

The "Pioneer's" special correspondent cables:—

London, 26th December:—The New York correspondents quote an article in the "New York Times" asserting that the English press have completely misunderstood Dr. Wilson's Note, which really means that Germany must now decide whether she will offer terms acceptable to the Allies, or continue to fight subject to the great risk of America's joining her enemies. This is Germany's last chance to make peace on the terms, in the making of which she will have something to say. Germany will not misunderstand the Note.

SITUATION IN GREECE.

ALLIES' DEMAND.

BEING SATISFACTORILY CARRIED OUT.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

LONDON, Dec. 2.
Recd. 2-55 p.m., Dec.

The Greek Government is still satisfactorily carrying out the Allies' demand. The second Note has not yet been presented.

ALLIES' DEMAND FROM GREECE.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)

LAHORE, Dec. 28.

The "Civil and Military Gazette's" correspondent cables:—

London, Dec. 26:—The "Morning Post's" Athens correspondent says that the English, French and Italian Ministers, after visiting the Russian Minister, called on M. Lambros and presented a demand for the liberation of non-Greeks arrested for participation in the Venizelist movement. M. Lambros promised a prompt reply.

NEW AUSTRIAN CABINET APPOINTMENTS.

ANTI-MAGYAR AND ANTI-PRUSSIAN TENDENCY.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

LONDON, Dec. 27.
Recd. 1 p.m., Dec. 28.

"The Times" says the appointments of Bohemian Slavs, Counts Clammartiniz and Czeennin as Austrian Premier and Austro-Hungarian Foreign Minister, respectively, seem to have an anti-Magyar and anti-Prussian tendency and are likely to be viewed with displeasure in Budapest and Berlin.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL,

ONLY TO BE SOLD TO DIRECTOR OF ARMY CONTRACTS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

LONDON, Dec. 27.
Recd. 2-30 p.m., Dec. 28.

The Army Council has issued orders that no wool of 1916-17 clip consigned to the United Kingdom from Australia and New Zealand on growers' account is to be sold except to the Director of Army Contracts. Persons holding or receiving stocks are required immediately on arrival to furnish particulars thereof to the authorities and to sell the wool as directed.

RUSSIAN PREMIER AT HEADQUARTERS.

MINISTERIAL CHANGES IMMINENT.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

PETROGRAD, Dec. 27.
Recd. 1 p.m., Dec. 28.

Premier Trepoff has gone to the Imperial Headquarters. It is understood his visit is connected with important ministerial changes.

FIGHT FOR MACIN BRIDGEHEAD.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

LONDON, Dec. 27.
Recd. 0-15 a.m., Dec. 29.

A Bulgarian communiqué says enemy monitors bombarded Tulcea. The retreating Russians destroyed the bridges across the Danube at Isaccea. Fighting is proceeding for the possession of the bridgehead at Macin.

CAKES FOR SOLDIERS IN MESOPOTAMIA.

AN APPRECIATION.

The following telegram dated the 25th instant has been received by Lady Willingdon from Major-General Sir F. S. Maude, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., General Officer Commanding Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force:—

Throughout Mesopotamia British Soldiers are to-night enjoying the cakes so kindly provided for them by your Excellency and the women of Bombay Presidency and wish me to be their spokesman in sending their grateful thanks.

BRITISH FRONT.

FIGHTING ROUND HULLUCH.

BRILLIANT AIR FIGHTS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

LONDON, Dec. 28.
Recd. 2-30 p.m., Dec. 28.

A British communiqué says we bombed a few hundred yards of trenches and dugouts north-west of Lens doing great damage. We sustained no casualties.

Our positions north of the Somme and near Len Sars were heavily shelled at intervals. We successfully bombarded the defences and trench mortar emplacements in the neighbourhood of Hulluch and westward of Messines.

There were a number of air fights. One enemy aeroplane was destroyed and five damaged. There of ours are missing.

ARTILLERY ACTIVITY ON THE SOMME.

SUCCESSFUL FRENCH BOMBING OPERATIONS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

PARIS, Dec. 28.
Recd. 2-30 p.m., Dec. 28.

A communiqué says there was marked artillery activity in some sectors south of the Somme where an enemy battery was exploded.

We successfully fired several mines in the region of Beauraignes, south of Avre and then raided the enemy lines capturing prisoners.

ANGLO-INDIAN LEAGUE.

CONFERENCE AT JHANSI.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)

JHANSI, Dec. 28.

The eighth annual Conference of the Anglo-Indian Empire League commenced its sessions to-day. Delegates were present from all parts of India and one even from Burma. Mr. J. H. Abbott, the President-in-Chief, received a great ovation as he took the chair supported by Mr H. A. H. Payne of Bombay. In the course of his presidential address, Mr Abbott after welcoming the delegates said:—The past year has been an epoch making period in the history of Anglo-Indians because it saw the raising of an Anglo-Indian Force. The fact that the given number of recruits has not yet been raised, does not militate against the success or the scheme or the prestige of the community as the sanction came at a time when thousands had already responded by enlisting in British units. The fact that the Railways and Government Departments do not find convenient to spare men, should not deter the League from making special efforts to secure the number still required. A concrete example of success attending their efforts was first that the first Anglo-Indian Battery is now in Mesopotamia (Loud Cheers).

Mr. Abbott strongly appealed for support for the Anglo-Indian hostel scheme at Allahabad. To secure the Government aid promised Rs. 23,000 was still required to complete the sum of Rs. 55,000 necessary. The scheme was not one which concerned the League and the Association alone. It concerned Anglo-Indians throughout the land.

Official and Personal.

The Rt Rev. the Bishop of Bombay left on Wednesday for Udaipur and Kherwara.

During the absence on leave of the Hon. Mr. W. H. Sharp, or pending further orders, Mr. A. L. Covernton will act as Director of Public Instruction and Mr. A. C. L. Wilkinson will act as Principal, Elphinstone College, Bombay.

Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Willingdon hunted yesterday morning with the Bombay Hounds.

H. E Lady Willingdon visited the Cama and Allbless Women's Hospitals yesterday morning.

Their Excellencies gave a Christmas Party to the clerks, their wives and children yesterday afternoon, followed by an entertainment.

Mr. F. G. Sly has arrived at Government House.

H. H. the Maharaja of Baroda has offered to place his palace on Malabar Hill at the disposal of the Government of India to be used as a hospital for sick and wounded officers.

FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD.

BANK OF ENGLAND AS AGENT.

ANGLO-AMERICAN FINANCIAL RELATIONSHIP.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.
Recd. 1 p.m., Dec. 28.

The Federal Reserve Board has been permitted to appoint the Bank of England its agent under the American banking laws. This is a very important development and a radical departure from the existing financial methods as it practically places the American and British Governments in direct financial relationship. The first effect is expected to be a noticeable decrease in the use of gold in the settlement of international balances.

MOSLEM EDUCATION CONFERENCE.

DEMAND FOR COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)

ALIGARH Dec. 28.

At to-day's sitting of the Moslem Educational Conference this morning the following resolution was moved by Sahibzada Aftab Ahmad Khan:—"This Conference accepts the principle of free and compulsory education and respectfully requests the Government of India to take practical steps accordingly at the earliest opportunity." Several speakers spoke on the subject and the resolution was carried unanimously.

SHORTAGE OF WAGONS ON N.-W. RAILWAY.

RAILWAY BOARD'S REPLY TO KARACHI MERCHANTS.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)

KARACHI, Dec. 28.

The Karachi Indian Merchants' Association in reply to their telegram regarding the difficulties experienced owing to the shortage of wagons on the North-Western Railway have received the following telegram from the Railway Board:—"Your telegram to the Viceroy about the inability of the North-Western Railway to despatch grain has been forwarded to the Railway Board for consideration. The difficulty is the shortness of coal supply on the North-Western Railway, in consequence of want of labour at collieries. Everything possible is being done to improve the supplies."

A letter has also been received from the Railway Board saying the matter has been brought to the notice of the Agent of the North Western Railway, who is being asked to communicate with the Association and to inform the Railway Board of the circumstance.

VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

PROSPECTS OF BRITISH SUBORDINATES IMPROVED.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS.)

SIMLA, Dec. 28.

With a view to improve the prospects and conditions of service of British subordinates of the Indian subordinate veterinary department, the Government of India have sanctioned the following:—

(a) The Department will in future be known as the Indian Subordinate Veterinary Corps. (b) The British establishment be comprised of two Farrier Sergeant-Majors, four Quartermaster-Sergeants, 16 Staff Sergeants ad Sergeants. (c) The rates of pay in addition to free quarters, Farrier Sergeant-Major Rs. 195, Quartermaster Sergeant Rs. 175, Staff Sergeant Rs. 165 and Sergeant Rs. 155. (d) While in field service command allowance at the rate of Rs. 30 per mensem for warrant officers, and Rs. 20 for non-commissioned officers be admissible. In case of subordinates who served or are still serving with overseas forces, the command allowance will be admissible with retrospective effect.

CASUALTY LIST.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

DELHI, Dec. 27.

The following names of British officers appear in the 272nd casualty list of the Indian Expeditionary Forces:—

Died of Wounds:—Second-Lieut. R L L Cauntir, Gloucestershires; Second-Lieut Parker, Hampshires.

Wounded:—Temporary Captain G K Harrison, East Surreys; Second-Lieut B C Relton, Royal Warwickshires; Lieut A W Moodhead, I. A. A. O.

SHIPPING ARMAMENTS.

REMEDY AGAINST SUBMARINES.

NEED OF BIGGER GUNS.

Writing on the arming of merchant men, "The Times'" Naval correspondent writes:—

To some extent guns for self-defence were furnished to ships last year, but it was to a very small extent. Principally, the ships so provided were those requisitioned for Government work. The official explanation why our ships were not armed was the scarcity of guns and ammunition, other requirements being more pressing. The guns provided in almost every case were of small calibre and range while the armament was placed at the stern. The value of protection of this kind, even under these handicaps, against the enemy submarines in the earlier campaign was amply proved over and over again. The experience of many captains in the mercantile marine was that the enemy submarines did not continue to attack steamers provided with guns. They were afraid of them. It might have been expected, therefore, that, this measure having proved its value, every merchant ship would have been armed. This, however, has not been done, and probably very few of the merchant ships bringing foodstuffs to England are armed at the present time. Now that we are face to face with another and more dangerous submarine campaign in which the enemy boats are larger, carry heavier guns, and are capable of operating at a long distance from port, the position has become more urgent and important. The newer submarines no longer lie in wait under headlands and in shallow waters but attack the ships in the open sea. Scores of cases have demonstrated the danger to our ocean-borne traffic. Moreover, a small gun mounted astern is, it has been demonstrated, no longer a sufficient protection. The guns carried by the newer enemy submarines outrange such guns which carry at the farthest about 9,000 yards, whereas the guns carried by the submarine have a range of from 11,000 to 12,000 yards. The "U" boat can, therefore, keep at a safe distance and shell the merchant steamer till she sinks her. The need is for heavier guns or at least guns of longer range mounted both in the bow and stern. It is unfair and unlike our British practice to oblige our gallant merchant seamen to run away from the enemy before they can bring their protected armament to bear. Furthermore, it is exceedingly likely that in order to perform this operation the merchant ship will have to present her vulnerable broadside to the enemy as a target for shell or torpedo. There may be diplomatic difficulties to surmount before British merchant ships can be armed as they should be, but these cannot weigh in the balance when the gravity of this matter and the interests of the Empire are considered.

How grave the matter is can be shown from official statements. Seven months ago—on May 3, 1916—Lord Curzon replying to Lord Beresford in the House of Lords made the statement that the number of merchant ships we had lost at that date was almost exactly balanced by the new ships which had been added to the mercantile marine during the progress of the war. On the 15th of this month Dr. Macnamara, in the House of Commons, said that "the total British gross tonnage of merchant ships of 1,000 tons and over at the beginning of the war showed a net loss up to September 30, 1916, of slightly over 2½ per cent. This was due to all causes." The development of the menace to the merchant marine, and the increase in the peril from the action of the newer submarines, are shown by these figures. Whereas, as in May, of this year, the net loss was insignificant, it is now 2½ per cent., and it cannot be supposed that the ordinary risks of the sea have increased to any large extent.

What is happening to our own mercantile marine is happening also in a greater or lesser degree to the merchant shipping of our Allies and of neutrals. So far as the former are concered, it has become a question whether the British Government should not strongly impress upon the French, Italian, and Russian Governments the necessity of arming their mercantile marine. With the neutrals there may be difficulties in the way of doing this. If however the activities of the enemy submarines in this direction are not effectively checked we may see the neutrals ceasing to trade with this country and using their shipping to pick up that large volume of foreign trade which can no longer be carried out by British vessels owing to the conditions which have demanded their use for other services.

Intimation has been received that the importation into the United Kingdom of the following articles has been prohibited with effect from the 5th December, viz., gold, manufactured or unmanufactured, including gold coin and articles partly consisting of or containing gold, all manufactures of silver, other than silver watches and silver watch cases, and jewellery of all descriptions. The prohibition does not apply to gold consigned for delivery at and sale to the Bank of England. The prohibition is also being applied to postal packages, but pearls and unset stones, other than diamonds, will be admitted under license.

INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.

HINDU-MOSLEM UNITY.

A GREAT UNDERSTANDING.

BOND OF POLITICAL PARTNERSHIP.

SIR JAMES MESTON'S SYMPATHETIC SPEECH

CLAIM TO BEAR ARMS.

REPEAL OF PRESS ACT DEMANDED.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

LUCKNOW, Dec. 28.

The practical work of a most historic session of the National Congress commenced to-day,—a Congress invigorated with an admixture of new blood coursing through the old veins and infusing a spirit of swifter progress and more advanced demands than have hitherto been put forward. To-day's agenda indicated an eminently businesslike Subjects Committee and a mood of self-assertion that augurs well for the future self-respect and manhood of the nation as revealed in the political programme of an educated community that refuses to be content with the demands for half measures that predicate a community that feels itself still to be a subject people asking for favours, but has realised its political freedom and its ability to stand self-reliant master of its own affairs and self-authorised to demand in full the rights that belong to a free people, pursuing its destiny in common with its fellow-peoples of the Empire under the aegis of a flag that has braved the battle and the breeze for a thousand years in the cause of freedom.

A UNITED CONGRESS.

But first let it be recorded that the Congress that assembled to-day was a United Congress in more senses than one. It was not only the United Congress of the so-called Moderate and the so-called Extremist, of he who says he is for self-Government and he who calls himself Home Ruler. The union of these two one-time warring sections is one great fact that distinguishes this session from the Congresses of the past ten years, but there is present another and equally, if not more, important factor in this year's Congress,—the unity of the Hindu and the Mussalman. For three days past the momentous issue as to whether Hindus and the Moslems were to seal, sign and settle the Entente which was established last year in Bombay and to cement in an indissoluble bond of political partnership the *pourparlers* then begun, has trembled in the balance and more than once a crisis has arisen in the discussions of a gravity that those passionately anxious for the achievement of an agreement,—and who has not been so?—have sickened with the thought that after all the efforts on both sides, failure was to be the ultimate result. For three days the Joint Committee of the League and the Congress sitting in the dimly lit tent of the Subjects Committee, have wrestled with the problems that the settlement of the points of difference presented,—points impossible of settlement have said the enemies of both, differences seemingly almost impossible of solution have said some of their anxiously watching friends. As reasoned argument countered reasoned argument, as reason exhausted, the issue finally hung on the mood of strong earnest men incorrigibly convinced of the right and justice of their own side and the only hope of success lay in the generosity of the side that would yield,—and neither seemed inclined to yield. Points of trifling difference they were, you might say, but be that so, they were differences as strongly moving to those they separated as those for instance which have separated Orangemen and Nationalists in Ireland and indefinitely postponed the day of Irish Home Rule.

PASSIONATE LONGING FOR UNITY.

How and why was the issue ultimately settled? Because from the time the delegates sat down to their task one and all were honestly imbued with a passionate longing for the unity of India. Each side knew that failure to agree would wreck the work of years and postpone to an indefinite date the achievement of a United India, but each side grimly realised that such an intolerable consummation might after all result and the realisation the more strongly, the more insistently, inspired them with the determination to try again. Even when the dreaded disaster seemed to have arrived and all the resources of argument, negotiation, yielding pursuasion and diplomacy had been exhausted, again and again the deadlock came. The meeting had to be adjourned and the negotiators set their teeth to resist the failure that seemed so inevitable because the Moslems and the Hindus of the United Provinces seemed hopelessly unable to find a platform of settlement. But as one who sat throughout these prolonged, at times excited and always intensely difficult, negotiations, I can say there was never one bitter word spoken on either side, nor was temper displayed by any single individual and every reference to the intense desire of both the Hindu and the Musalman to find that common platform of agreement and every appeal to remember the cause for which all this effort was being put forth—the United Motherland—elicited a response that was so warm, so sincere and so enthusiastic as to buoy the optimistic with the thought, "How can there be failure to settle between antagonists who are so passionately and sincerely inspired with the longing to embrace?" And the optimists were right, and every careful observer of the struggle was an optimist, because towering over everything was this longing over and over again expressed in terms sometimes of cold reason, sometimes of warm emotion to unite for the motherland. And so it was the settlement of the vexed question of the proportion of representation in the scheme of reformed Legislatures ultimately came.

THE SETTLEMENT.

The details can be very briefly outlined. Two main points were left over from the Calcutta Conference to be settled at Lucknow. 1. In Bengal the Mahomedan demand was 50 per cent. and the Hindus took their stand on 33⅓. 2. In the United Provinces the Mahomedans demanded 50 per cent. and the Hindus offered 25. Immediately the Joint Conference assembled here at Lucknow, Mr. Bhupendranath Basu announced, in a most tactfully phrased speech, that the Hindus of Bengal were prepared to concede 40 per cent. and it only required five minutes' deliberation for the Bengal Mahomedan delegates to accept this. Then came the difficult problem of settling the much wider and more strongly-felt differences in the United Provinces. It is neither necessary nor desirable to detail the history of the negotiations of the ensuing three days. Suffice it to say that late last evening the settlement came, the Mahomedans agreeing to accept 30 per cent. with the proviso that the article in the Congress Constitution by which any question barred by three-fourths of the members of any single community, should be excluded, shall be embodied in any scheme of reform while the Mahomedans should stand outside the general electorate. It cannot be said that the compromise really satisfies either side, but for the sake of unity and the larger issues at stake it was accepted. Thus it was that the dread that the Congress might assemble to-day bereft of the Mahomedan delegates was not realised. They came in a body headed by Mr. Jinnah, Mr. Mazrul Haque and the Raja of Mahmudabad and were received with great cheering. Here it may be mentioned that the Lieutenant-Governor also came this morning and was cordially received and made amends for his unfortunate letter to the Reception Committee in the shape of a very happily-worded and sympathetic little speech. His Honour remained during the discussion of the first resolution and left amid hearty cheering.

BUSINESSLIKE AGENDA.

In the meanwhile the Subjects Committee overnight and this morning had discussed and settled what I have already said, was a businesslike agenda. It calls for remark in two respects. First, the uncompromising character of the Arms Act resolution, and second, the new demand in the resolution on the Public Services by which the old cry for simultaneous examinations is dropped and replaced by that for the holding of the examination for the Indian Civil Service in India alone. For the rest, many of the speeches were good, but none of outstanding brilliance. That is reserved for to-morrow on the self-Government resolution.

One of the happiest utterances was that of the Hon. Mr. Dwarka Nath of Behar on volunteering and Commissions in the Army. It was delivered in Urdu and kept the audience at a high pitch of enjoyment by its happy humorous sallies and its telling points.

The speeches on the Press Act were listened to with significant attention and interest and those of the mover and seconder were closely reasoned and convincing utterances.

Mr. Gandhi, who is an object of veneration wherever he goes in Lucknow, was given an ovation on advancing to the rostrum to move the resolution on indentured labour.

Mr. Polak in moving the resolution on Indians in the Colonies, made a telling play with extracts from the remarkable letter of Mr. Lionel Curtis the publication of which has caused a great sensation.

Dr. Tej Bahadur Sapru made one of the best speeches of the day in moving the resolution on the Public Services.

To-morrow will be devoted entirely to Self-Government.

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

SIR JAMES MESTON'S SPEECH.

(Associated Press.)

LUCKNOW, Dec. 28.

The Congress reassembled this forenoon, the attendance being larger than on the opening day. Those Mahomedans who had stood aloof prior to the compromise on the question of fixing the percentages of their representation on the Legislative Councils also joined. The result was that even delegates found difficulty in securing sitting accommodation in the pandal which is much too small for this year's session. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, Lady Meston and party arrived at twelve noon and were accorded a hearty reception.

WELCOME TO SIR JAMES MESTON.

In offering respectful and cordial welcome to Sir James Meston, the President said he recalled this day a chapter of the early history of this movement. In 1885 when the Congress was first started in Bombay, Sir William Wedderburn, Professor Wordsworth and a number of other high officials attend the Congress to listen and to advise. In the second Congress Lord Dufferin received a deputation of the Congress headed by Mr. Dadabhoy Naoroji. In the third Congress Lord Connemara received all the delegates. But here the curtain of official sympathy was dropped, but happily it had now been raised. In 1914 Lord Pentland attended the Congress and this day his Honour had done them the honour of his presence. They took it that his Honour sympathised with the rising aspirations of the people. His Honour's Government had signalised itself by introducing measures regarding industrial development of the province, and they hoped and trusted his administration would be further signalised by measures leading to the growth and rise of the people. He thanked his Honour in the name of the Congress for the honour done to them and he hoped and trusted Sir James Meston would live long to conduct his duties to the satisfaction of those people over whom he ruled.

SIR JAMES MESTON'S REPLY.

His Honour who on rising to speak received a tremendous ovation said:—Mr. President and members of the Indian National Congress, there has been between the Indian National Congress and myself from the day of its inception, a curious link both in time and in sympathy. The Congress, as you, Sir, have just reminded us, first showed light in 1885, and that was the year in which I first began my endeavours to serve India (hear, hear). Throughout these intervening thirty-one years I had thus a unique opportunity of watching the development of this great movement and I have watched it with interest and believe me, not without sympathy (applause). It is therefore a great pleasure to me to be for the first time a guest and a visitor at this great meeting. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your holy and unexpected welcome (loud applause).

The proceedings commenced with a patriotic song, after which resolutions mourning the deaths of the three Congress leaders which occurred during the year, and Lord Kitchener, as also a resolution of loyalty, were moved from the Chair and passed. After the loyalty resolution was passed three cheers were called for his Majesty and heartily responded to.

REPEAL OF ARMS ACT.

The Hon. Mr. Radha Kishen Das moved the following resolution:—

"That in the opinion of this Congress the Indian Arms Act should be repealed and Indians should be entitled to possess and use arms under conditions similar to those prevailing in England, the power being reserved to the local Government to enforce such restrictions as they may deem fit, from time to time as regards particular races and tribes."

He said that in the Queen's proclamation it had been laid down that Indians should be free citizens of India. Their present Sovereign had also given special proof of this keen regard for India. The memorable Guildhall speech ought to be enshrined in the hearts of every Indian. In spite of all these the Indian Legislative Council in an unfortunate moment, thought fit to impose a measure which reminded them that they were not free citizens of India. Under the Arms Act no Indian can possess and carry arms without a licence. But Europeans, Eurasians and even Negroes and Hottentots could possess and carry arms. The Act was a gratuitious insult to Indians. It had emasculated the nation. If it did not exist Government would have been able to enlist a huge army which would have long ago been able to defeat the Central Powers.

Dr. Rajan of Madras said it had been apprehended that if this Act were repealed arms would be plaed in the hands of anarchists and dacoits. In his opinion that would not be so. On the contrary, it would enable them to fight against anarchists.

Mr. B. K. Lahiri in supporting the resolution said that the Act was not justified in principle nor conduced to smooth working. It was the birthright of every man to possess arms for self-defence and self-protection, and it was idle to suggest that it was wellfounded and ought to be repealed. The resolution was carried.

Mrs. Serojini Naidu in supporting the resolution for the repeal of the Arms Act said she represented the sect which formed the mothers of men, whom they wished to make men, and not emasculated machines, and they demanded the birthright of their sons should be regiven. She asked, who but a woman, should raise her voice for men who had not been able for all these years to speak for themselves with any effect. She came from a city where there was no restriction to possess arms, and she said British India could well take a lesson from the State of Hyderabad.

The resolution was passed.

At this stage Sir James and Lady Meston who had been listening to speakers with great interest left amidst loud cheering.

VOLUNTEERING AND COMMISSIONS IN THE ARMY.

The second resolution related to the question of volunteering and commissions in the army. The claim of volunteering was based on the grounds of justice and statesmanship, and that of commissions in the Army on the grounds of justice and expediency and in view of the military capacity of the Indians as shown on the various battlefields in the war.

Mr. B. C. Chatterjee who followed the mover of this resolution, said it was a universally acknowledged fact that people who aspired to fulfil the noble and solemn obligations of self-government must have the capacity, readiness and willingness to bear arms, to repeal external aggressions, and maintain internal order. Modern history accentuated by recent happenings had demonstrated beyond the least doubt that to be a citizen of the Empire one must first be a soldier of the Empire. The heart and soul, the yearning passion of India, was in this resolution. It had fallen to his lot to defend persons in a number of political cases, and the conviction which was borne in upon him was that the revolutionary propaganda in this country would disappear on the day this resolution was translated into effect. The revolutionary recruiter would disappear before the Recruiting Sergeant of the King-Emperor. On that day, the young men of India will know that there was honourable, legitimate and manly way of realising the spirit of self-consecration of service and self-sacrifices, and desire to die as men and to live as men.

The proposition was supported by Rai Bahadur Dwarka Nath who said even women could do the work of Collectors and Commissioners but they must know how to wield arms.

The resolution was carried amidst great enthusiasm.

PRESS ACT.

Mr. C. P. Ramaswami Iyer moved the next resolution which strongly urged the Government to repeal the Press Act, which, it observed, had proved a menace to the liberty of the Indian Press and thus hampered the legitimate expression of healthy public opinion.

Mr. Iyer said that the essential of good Government was to keep itself informed of what was going on in the popular mind, and to see eye to eye with the popular eyes, so that it might be able to act in consonance with popular hopes and aspirations. Half the mistakes of the Government of India could have been avoided had the Indian Civil Service kept itself more in touch with the people. Unfortunately the people and officials in this country did not think and feel alike in matters concerning them. Then there were some officials who thought that personal attacks on them were attacks on Government. Under the Press Act the press was entirely under the whims of Magistrates. The Act had made the life of pressmen impossible. They had unequivocal pronouncements of High Court Judges on the reactionary and revolting character of some of the provisions of the Press Act. The history of the Press Act was a series of broken words and pledges. It was a menace both to the people and the Government. The Act was mischievous and it should be entirely abolished.

Mr. R. G. Pradhan in seconding the resolution, said the only word to characterise the Press Act was that it was obnoxious, The only power given to the highest tribunal was to reject the application of an aggrieved pressman. He appealed to his Excellency the Viceroy, to give assurance to the press deputation which would shortly wait upon him, that the Act would be repealed at the earliest possible opportunity. He hoped that his Excellency would repeal the Act and enshrine his name in the grateful hearts of the people over whom he was called to rule.

Mr. S. G. Pantulu in supporting the resolution, said the greatest enemy of British rule was he who wanted to gag the press. They were like children as they were an unarmed people, and even the right to cry as children was taken away.

Mr. Dunichand of the Panjab related his experiences of the working of the Act in his province.

REPRESSING INCONVENIENT CRITICISM.

Mr. Horniman who was received with cheers, said he took it that it was unnecessary to offer in this great Congress representing the people of India, any argument on behalf of the principle of a free press. He took it also, therefore, that the people of India were against any sort of Act, or measure, which in any way infringed or deprived the press of any freedom of expression of opinion. He, therefore, only proposed to put before them as a working journalist and President of the Press Association of India, a few facts regarding the alleged reasons for which the Act was retained, and a few facts showing the way in which the Act was being administered. When the Act was introduced in the Imperial Legislative Council the reason given to the Council and country, was the existence, chiefly in Bengal, of phases of revolutionary activities, which Government had confessed themselves unable to cope with. He had followed the history of the Act since its very inception, and he was one of those who maintained at the time the Act was passed, and he maintained even now, that the chief reason did not even exist at the time it was enacted, because that phase of the revolutionary activity had already disappeared. A certain class of newspapers which were undoubtedly conducting a seditious propaganda in a veiled manner, had already ceased to exist, partly by the operation of the ordinary laws of human nature and economic factors of business, namely, they could not keep up supply if there was not demand, and partly because the ordinary law of the land had extinguished that phase. He maintained the Act was really passed not to suppress revolutionary literature, but to put in the hands of the Executive a weapon for repressing inconvenient criticism which could not be brought under the Penal Code. (Cheers.) If reasons for the passing of the Act, did not exist then, very much less did they exist now. He defied the Government of India, or any Provincial Government to lay before the country any reasoned case in justification of continuing the Act on the Statute Book on the grounds on which it was originally enacted. The next point he wished to put before them, was that the promise that safeguards existed, had not been kept; and the safeguards did not exist at all, though they were most solemnly assured that there were safeguards which would prevent the arbitrary exercise of powers by the Executive. The non-official members had expressed the fear that this Act would put one more weapon in the hands of the police. That was a very well-grounded fear. In reply to that Sir Herbert Risley promised them that the police would not come in at any steps in the administration of the Act, but he (the speaker) said, the police came in at almost every stage. (Cheers.) The whole question of the respectability of the proprietor of a newspaper or a press, rested in the hands of the C. I. D. and it was not necessary for him to elaborate what that meant. These solemn promises had been broken, and they were being broken from week to week, and day to day. He asked whether they were to regard these solemn promises of the Government as absolutely nothing. The third point he wished to urge was regarding the unfair manner in which the Act was being administered between certain classes of journals. Anglo-Indian papers were allowed to write as they liked, to publish any sort of vilification of the people of this country and thus bring the people of this country into hatred and contempt of the people of the Empire, but nothing was done. He did not need to enlarge on what happened to Indian journals. He would give one instance. Mrs. Besant in her paper was not allowed to agitate on the question of reserved compartments for Eurasians and Anglo-Indians, but an Anglo-Indian paper in Bombay was allowed to publish without official remonstrance an article advocating the use of violence as an ordinary factor in the treatment of Indian labour. That was a pretty bad example, but it was not the worst. He merely gave it as one occurring to him at the moment. He also gave an instance in which a Gujarati novel was suppressed, he believed, because certain parts of that book criticised Western culture as not desirable in an oriental land. While, at present in certain Anglo-Indian journals a serial story, the author of which was a public official, was being published, the tone of which was to imbue the reader with hatred and contempt of the people of this country. These were only some of the reasons why they asked for the repeal of the Act. He asked whether he had said enough to justify his demand in their views for the repeal of the Act. (Cheers.) Then he was satisfied. (Loud cheers.)

The resolution was carried unanimously.

INDIA AND COLONIES.

Mr. H. S. Polak moved a resolution regarding the treatment of Indians in the Colonies which reiterated the previous resolutions of the Congress. He said Mr. Gokhale's visit had made immense impression on the large-minded and public-spirited men of South Africa and among the unlearned he was described as Coolie King. For the first time it was then realised India did not produce coolies only but when necessary could produce a King also. The settlement of 1914 practically coincided with the war and the Indians there had vowed by a self-denying ordinance not to press on the Union Government the outstanding disputes. After describing the various disabilities Mr. Polak pointed out at great length that the influence of South Africa was extending to the neighbouring provinces. He said in East Africa which owed its existence as part of the Empire to Indian enterprise and where Indians were in an overwhelming majority and had large economic interests, Indians did not possess a single representative in the local Legislative Council. Yet when martial law was declared Mr. Ritch who was serving them, was deported and many were sentenced to be shot, though subsequently their sentences were reduced to transportation for life, but on what charge they did not yet know. They had an agitation promoted in the country by a gentleman of the "Round Table" group who were propagating the political idea that India should be governed not only by Great Britain but by the Self-Governing Dominions. (Cries of "Never, Never.") But he knew what self-Government meant in South Africa. Had he not seen a wide-spread rebellion led not by Indians, but by Europeans? South Africa as a whole had not risen to the fullest heights of self-Government, but even if it were, it would not entitle them to have a share in governing this country. A certain fact had been brought to his notice. He referred to it as he wished to dissociate himself from the sentiments expressed in a printed document which was marked private but which he understood was very widely published. It was addressed by the same gentleman to the "Round Table" groups all over the world. He did not propose to read it as it contained statements which he, as an Englishman, was ashamed to read. He felt that the gentleman who wrote this document had abused the laws of hospitality. This gentleman had, Mr. Polak continued, with the connivance of highly placed officials, and it was plain in this deep laid conspiracy officials were undoubtedly taking part, laid a plot to bring India under the domination of the Dominions. (Cries of Shame.) He then read an extract from the letter and said there was a pretence to consult Indian opinion and then write a predetermined book. He called it hypocrisy of the first order. This letter was written by a man who was responsible for the origin of the Asiatic legislation in South Africa. He asked the audience not to be under the illusion that these sentiments were shared by the democracy of South Africa. They had not expressed the desire to participate in the Government of India because they had their own troubles to meet. But he assured the Congress so long as there was breath in him, he would always combat an agitation such as this.

Mr. G. A. Natesan, of Madras, in seconding the resolution, said that if in the Councils of the Empire, India were not given a position equal to the Colonies, it would be doing a gross insult to India, and the Indians would not take it lying down.

Mr. Tiwari, of U. P., supported the resolution.

Mr. Sachendra Prasad Basu, of Calcutta, pointed out that Indians were not inferior to Colonials in any respect not even in money contributed and bloodshed for the cause of the King and the Empire in the great war.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

A resolution was also adopted urging upon the Government the desirability of appointing a mixed committee of Indians and Europeans to enquire into the causes of agrarian trouble and the strained relations between the Indian ryot and the European planter in North Behar and to suggest remedies therefor.

The Congress stands adjourned till to-morrow morning.

PRESS COMMENTS ON PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH.

(Associated Press.)

CALCUTTA, Dec. 28.

Commenting on the President's address at the Congress the "Amrita Bazar Patrika" says:—Its chief merit consists in its outspokenness and what is most creditable to him is that in doing so, he has not used any offensive or disrespectful expression. One on going through his address will see Mr. Mazumdar is an out and out a Home Ruler as Mr. Besant, or Mr. Tilak.

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INDIAN SOCIAL CONFERENCE.

LEGALISATION OF INTER-MARRIAGES AMONG HINDUS.

(Associated Press.)

LUCKNOW, Dec. 27.

Speaking on the resolution urging the abolition of the caste system, Mr. N. S. Ramaswami Iyengar of Madras referred to the manifesto issued by non-Brahmins of his province. He said that the evils of caste system had given rise to a new political movement among non-Brahmins who apprehended that the higher castes would have a monopoly of all the privileges. It was the duty of Indians to show to them by example that there was no reason for any such apprehension.

Mr. J Chaudhuri moved the following resolution:—That this Conference resolves that the Government of India be requested for the purpose of introduction in the Imperial Council a Bill for disclosing the validity of inter-marriages amongst Hindus irrespective of caste and without in any case the obligation to make any declaration as to the religious faith of the parties as required by the Special Marriage Act.

He said the resolution had two aspects, legal and social. As regards the first it had been decided by the Calcutta High Court and other High Courts that such declaration was not necessary. As regards the social aspect, he said it was much to be deplored that in order to legalise such a marriage, they had to make a declaration against their will and conscience.

Professor Ball, seconding, said that in order to make Hindus of one caste such an Act was necessary. It was only a permissive measure and ought to be enacted. The resolution was adopted with acclamation.

Another resolution, which was carried with much acclamation, was that for raising the depressed classes. Mr. Sachindra Prosad Bose in moving it said the whole atmosphere of Lucknow was surcharged with Self-Government. This resolution was pre-eminently a resolution on Self-Government. In this resolution they did not beg or borrow. It rested with them to give effect to this resolution. He urged the audience to accord equal treatment to the sixty millions of depressed classes in India.

The IRON CLAW

by ARTHUR STRINGER

AUTHOR OF
"THE OCCASIONAL OFFENDER,"
"THE WIRE TAPPERS,"
"GUN RUNNERS," Etc.
Novelized from
The Pathe Photo Play of the Same Name.

SYNOPSIS.

On Windward Island Palidori intrigues Mrs. Golden into an appearance of evil which causes Golden to capture and torture the Italian by branding his face and crushing his hand. Palidori floods the island and kidnaps Golden's little daughter Margery. Twelve years later in New York a Masked One rescues Margery from Legar and takes her to her father's home. Legar sends Golden a demand for the chart. The coveted chart is lost in a fight between Manley and one of Legar's henchmen, but is recovered by the Laughing Mask. Margery rescues the Laughing Mask from the police. Manley finds Margery not indifferent to his love. He saves her from Mauki's poisoned arrows. Manley plans a mock funeral which fails to accomplish the desired purpose, the capture of the Iron Claw and his gang. Margery is saved from death at the hands of the Iron Claw by the Laughing Mask. An attempt by the Iron Claw to blow up the O'Mara cottage is frustrated in the nick of time. The Laughing Mask discloses his identity to Margery. Margery overhears the police's plan to take the Laughing Mask prisoner and hastens to warn him. They escape both the police and the Iron Claw. Later the Laughing Mask is almost taken while with Margery at her home. He eludes capture; Margery's father tells her that the Mask has met death. A mysterious woman frightens Legar's henchman into a promise of confession to clear the Laughing Mask. She meets Margery and discloses herself to that young lady as David Manley. Legar and his gang get possession of some loot and escape, taking Margery with them. The Laughing Mask adds to his mysteriousness by once more saving her from death. Margery rescues the chart of the Van Horn loot. The police attempt to arrest David as the Laughing Mask. The Masks appears on the scene. David saves Margery and her friends from Legar's henchmen, one of whom loses his life trying to escape. The police captain teaches Margery the heliograph. In an effort to save David she is almost trapped by Legar. The Laughing Mask comes to her aid. The code saves them. David discovers a diagram which is the means of averting the deaths of the Goldens and their guests at a lawn banquet.

EIGHTEENTH EPISODE.

THE GREEN-EYED GOD.

"I thought you had discarded that theory, Captain Brackett," Margery Golden said in surprised tone. "I know you discovered some strongly convincing evidence, but when, with our own eyes, we saw both David Manley and the Laughing Mask in the same room at the same time, it stands to reason they must be different persons." Then she added softly to herself, "And I am sorry it turned out that way."

Just then one of the captain's men entered the room with news of a startling character written large on his face.

"Well, Jenkins, what is it?" tersely demanded his superior, and then as the self-important sleuth glanced at Margery, he added, "Miss Golden is in on this as much as any of us."

"Well, you see it happened like this," he began in a meditative voice, "I had been doin' a four-hour stretch down at the four corners. It was the blackest kind of a night and there wasn't even a stray rabbit for company. I hadn't seen anything that looked suspicious, so when Donovan comes along to spell me off, I thought I'd stop in a mintue for a chat with Parker, the head gardener down at Wilken's place. I found the old man and his son, Joe, in the kitchen and they gave me a little somethin' to take the dust out of my throat. We was settin' there quiet and peaceable, when all of a sudden I seen old Parker starin' at the open winder with the eyes bulgin's out of his head. I took a squint myself and I'll be blamed if that slippery customer with the comic mask wasn't lookin' right into my eyes.

"'Jenkins,' he says, quite calmlike, 'you're a good man in your way, so I thought I'd tip you off that a couple of the Iron Claw's second-story workers are pullin' off a job right in this house while you're guzzling your beer. If you nab those two porch-climbers,' he says, 'it ought to help that promotion ye're lookin' for."

"Then he gives a little laugh an' with that he was gone. I thought he was kiddin' me along and I was pretty sore by that time. I makes a dive through the winder with Joe close behind me, but that masked Jerry had disappeared like he always does.

"We did the best we could, chief, an' you ought to know it ain't no cinch to round up the Laughin' Mask. Well—as I was sayin', he made a clean getaway and me and Joe decided to take a look through the house to make sure he was only stringin' us. We went up them front stairs like a couple of gum-shoe artists an' then we seen somethin' was wrong. The door of the room where Miss Wilkens sleeps stood open a little way and I caught the glim of a flashlight near where she keeps her jewel case. I shoved my hand just inside the door and pushed the light button. And there we was face to face with a couple of the most surprised and toughest lookin' crooks that I ever met up with. Miss Wilkens was lyin' there in the bed sleepin' like a baby."

"Them two housebreakin' agents of Legar's was as full of fight as a couple of Kilkenny cats. They whipped out their guns, and one of them fleshed me in the shoulder, while the other fetched Joe a crack over the head that put him to sleep for a minute. By the time Miss Wilkens had got her eyes open an' let out a scared screech they was through the winder and climbin' down the latticework."

"Wait a minute, Jenkins," Captain Brackett interrupted. "Your story may be very interesting, but what has this part of it got to do with the laughing Mask?"

"I was just comin's to that" his subordinate replied in a somewhat aggrieved tone. "We got out the front door just as the thugs was makin' tracks for a racin' car they had hidden off to one side of the road. Old man Parker tried to stop 'em, but he got a wallop on the jaw that knocked him stiff. They jumps into the car and sends her off with the self-starter. We thought they was gone all right, when that automobile stops up with a jerk that pretty near put them motor bandits over the glass front. We was Johnny on the spot then, an' we collared our men in a hurry. An' say, what do you think put the kibosh on that joy ride getaway?"

"The thing that brought them crooks to a standstill was a rope as thick as my arm, with one end tied to the rear axle of the automobile and the other end made fast to a big tree. The wheels was buzzin' round, but they wasn't gettin' nowhere. An' the man who rigged up the contraption for stoppin' those crooks must have been that Laughin' Mask ye're after. We found those jailbirds had pretty bad records an' the commish said I was likely to get some good news in a couple of days. Perhaps this feller with the mask ain't as bad as you think, chief."

"Why doesn't he come out into the open, then, and explain these charges standin' against him, instead of sneakin' around like a masked safe-blower?" he demanded with considerable heat.

"I didn't know you wanted me to begin backwards," he said in ruffled tones. "I've got something' worth talkin' about all right, if you'll give me a chance to tell it."

"Please tell us everything that happened, Jenkins," Margery interposed.

"Well, it certainly was some scrap, Miss Golden," answered the thief-catcher, addressing himself exclusively to the diplomatic girl, "an' the strangest part of the whole thing happened after I got the bracelets on them crooks and left Joe to watch them, while I went up to the house to see if anything was missin'."

"Just as I reached the house," he quickly resumed, "the moon broke through the clouds an' I stood lookin' into the garden, for I had a hunch that one-armed desperado might be hangin' around to superintend that job his men tried to pull off. Then, all at once, I seen Miss Wilkens, dressed in a kind of lace wrapper, standin' like a ghost down at the further end of the garden. An' she wasn't alone by a long shot. Talkin' to her, free and easy as if he'd known her all his life, was that daredevil, Laughin' Mask. I felt sort of obliged to him for tippin' me off about Legar's second-story workers, but I knew you was anxious to have a little talk with him, so I commences to sneak up on them night prowlers like an old Tom would go after a couple of sparrows. I had covered about half the distance when that masked Romeo grab Miss Wilkens in his arms an' commences to kiss her like a happy bridegroom. An' she keeps comin' right back for more. I was that surprised I must have let my foot down heavy, for they broke apart and he goes through the hedge like a shot. When I comes up on the run there was only Miss Wilkens an' when I told her she was harborin' a man wanted by the law, she froze me up with a haughty stare.

"'You must have been drinkin', officer,' she says. 'I just came out for a minute to calm my nerves after all that excitement an' the only person I've seen is an extremely rude policeman.'

"I don't believe a word of the last part of your story," Margery cried in a voice perilously close to tears. "I don't believe the Laughing Mask was promenading about that garden with a strange young woman at midnight."

"We'll settle that when the time comes" said the police captain, "but right now young Manley is the one that needs watchin'. I thought maybe you'd feel like takin' me down where he's stayin' in your car."

Anxious to do anything which might tend to clear up the harassing doubts preying upon her mind, Margery willingly acquiesced in this plan. A little later the speedy, gray roadster containing the determined police captain and the troubled-faced girl drew up just around the bend of the road beyond the Ricks homestead, where David Manley had taken up his abode since his abrupt departure from the manor house of his former employer.

Suddenly Margery felt her heart quicken as she saw a familiar figure, with dejectedly drooping shoulders, cutting across the fields in the direction of Seven Oaks Hill. The keeneyed officer caught sight of his quarry at almost the same moment.

"There's our man now," he said quickly, "and it's up to us to keep him in sight every minute."

Stealthily the slender girl and the burly captain, slipping from cover to cover, shadowed the abstracted Manley, who was apparently too occupied with his thoughts to be at all on his guard. He finally reached the summit of the hill and made straight for the lone bowlder, where on a previous occasion the Laughing Mask had mysteriously eluded the hotly pursuing police captain. His trailers lodged into a nearly-by thicket and breathlessly waited the outcome of this strange procedure.

Nor had they long to wait. A few tense moments elapsed after David Manley disappeared from view behind the bowlder and then another figure emerged from in back of that stone concealment. The features of the newcomer were shrouded by a yellow and grotesquely laughing mask.

Through that opening the two shadowers of the Laughing Mask saw him advancing toward a rose-mantled summerhouse at the end of a shaded walk. They saw a graceful girl, her flowerlike face aglow with eager expectation, suddenly emerge from the summerhouse and run to meet him with outstretched arms. Then as the two figures met for a moment in a close embrace a sharp cry of pent-up anguish burst from the white lips of Margery Golden.

As that soul-racked cry reached his ears, the perfidious masker broke from the embrace of his companion and stood gazing in startled surprise in the direction from which it came. At that moment a thick-set figure came catapulting through the hedge and bore down upon the Laughing Mask like a human cannon ball. The exasperated police captain, realizing he could no longer hope to take his enemy by surprise, had staked everything on this sudden rush. But the nimblefooted fugitive was off like a sprinter trying to beat a record, and by the time he reached the road he had gained a wide leap over his lumbering pursuer, who shortly gave up the chase and slowly retraced his steps, blowing like a winded truck horse.

"This is the second time you've harbored that criminal," he barked at the proudly erect young woman who stood facing Margery Golden, "an' as an officer of the law I give you warning it will be worse for you if you don't tell us where he keeps himself under cover."

"I shall tell you nothing," answered the openly defiant girl, "your bullying threats do not frighten me in the least, and I shall see that your insulting conduct is reported to the proper authorities."

With this parting shot the unruffled girl deliberately turned her back on the raging police captain and with quiet dignity, made her way toward the white-pillared mansion. Nothing remained for that utterly routed arm of the law but to withdraw from the field of this disastrous verbal battle with the best grace he could muster, but already, in his somewhat limited range of mental activity, he had devised a new scheme for trapping the elusive masquerader, whose immediate capture he was more grimly determined upon than ever.

To his surprise Margery Golden promptly and steadfastly rebelled at the part which he had chosen for her to play in the consummation of this scheme, which savored to a certain degree of unscrupulous trickery. It was only by fanning the smoldering jealousy of the sorely tried girl that he was at last able to wring from her a reluctant consent to do his bidding.

"The chances are he won't leave that good-lookin' doll for a minute, even though he thinks you are in terrible danger," had been his argument, which finally carried the day. Fearing that his hesitating confederate might exercise her woman's prerogative of suddenly changing her mind, the wily strategist immediately put the first part of his plan into execution. He went to the small mahogany writing desk standing in one corner of the gunroom and busied himself in clumsily guiding the pen held in his thick fingers over a half-sheet of notepaper.

"This ought to do the trick if anything will," he complacently announced, swinging about in his chair after a few moments of laborious effort, "now let's get this thing straight. I've signed Legar's name to this here billydoo, and it's just about the way he'd have written it himself. It's addressed to Dutch Frank in New York, and it says Legar has has rigged up a plant to decoy you down to Wharton's Quarry at four o'clock this afternoon, an' he wants a couple of his strong-arm men sent right out to help pull off the abductin' job, and carry you back to the city. Now we'll take this fake message out to that big rock where we've seen the Laughing Mask hangin' aroun' drop it in plain sight, kind of careless like, as though it had slipped out of Legar's pocket. Then if our man comes along an' he ain't too much taken up with his new lady friend, he's pretty likely to swallow this bait, hook an' sinker, an' if he goes down to Wharton's quarry at four o'clock this afternoon to give you a hand like he used to do he's goin' to get the biggest surprise party of his life."

When the stock captain of police having "planted" his forged decoy in a conspicuous spot near the lone bowlder, returned to the waiting girl in the low-slung car, his face was unmistakably stamped with selfsatisfaction.

* * * * *

The jubilant police officer might have lost some of his confidence in the success of his plan had he known that from behind a sheltering thicket two pairs of evil eyes had watched his every movement from the time the gray car had stopped by the roadside. Now that the coast was clear there emerged from that thicket a man with a wolfish, scar-marked face, who stood waiting while his blond lieutenant retrieved the white slip of paper intended to entrap the Laughing Mask. But scarcely had these repellant lawbreakers left their cover when the thicket was again occupied by a stealthily moving figure.

The newcomer, straining to overhear the conversation between Jules Legar and Dutch Frank, wore that familiar and derisive mask of yellow.

"It's a trap to get our masked friend down to Wharton's quarry, where the bunch is waiting to gather him in," said Legar.

"I haven't got any love for that meddling masker, but this is too good a chance to miss. I've got some heavier scores than his to settle, and right now is the time to do it."

With a cold chill of apprehension the Laughing Mask remembered he had no method of reaching the distant quarry except by foot, and long before he could hope to reach his destination Legar would have had ample time to carry out his fiendish purpose. But anything was better than this maddening inaction, and although realizing the futility of his course he raced frantically along the road through the dust clouds raised by the black automobile, fast disappearing in the distance.

That swiftly moving conveyance bearing Legar and his vicious follower turned off into a seldom used wood road and shortly afterward came to a stop a little way back of the steepwalled granite quarry. As Legar peered over the edge of the perpendicular cliff, from which great blocks of stone had been sheared away by powerful explosives, an evil smile of triumph distorted his scar-furrowed face. For just beneath him were the figures of the portly police captain and two of his men crouching behind a ponderous upright slab of granite. Standing a little apart from the others was the sober-faced daughter of his long-hated enemy.

He saw the authoritative officer motion the dejected girl into the hiding place, and as with apparent reluctance she obeyed this mute signal the iron-clawed spy drew back from the cliff-edge and rejoined his companion, who was waiting by the automobile.

"They're down there, all right," Legar savagely exulted, in response to the questioning look of Dutch Frank, "and when we blow out the side of that cliff they are going to get crushed like rats in a trap."

"Then we can croak that bunch whenever you're ready, gov'nor," answered the blond gunman, with the red lust of murder in his eyes. "I had a look aroun', an' the switch explodin' the big blast is in that shanty just up the way. I seen it when I took a peek in the winder. That dago watchman is sittin' right over it, but I've got somethin' here that ought to put him to sleep for a while."

He produced from one of his pockets a heavy blackjack, and this effective method of disposing of the quarry guard meeting with Legar's approval, the two conspirators moved in the direction of the nearby shanty.

But even at that moment fate ordained the happening of a certain incident which tended to give Legar's proposed victims, crouching at the foot of that great wall of granite, a barely possible chance for their lives. And in that unexpected incident the Laughing Mask took the leading part. As, completely exhausted from his first burst of speed, he stumbled falteringly along the dust-choking road toward Wharton's quarry, he had almost relinquished hope of being in time to warn the imperiled girl, whose self-appointed protector he had been.

* * * * *

Then the Laughing Mask in his despair heard the hoarse and repeated coughing of an automible horn as the impatient driver of a car rapidly approaching from behind signaled for a clear road. But instead of heeding those raucous notes of warning the Laughing Mask swung about and, planting himself in the middle of the highway, resolutely faced the oncoming automobile. With a sudden grinding of brakes the surprised and highly incensed driver of that car brought it to jarring stop within a few feet of the determined figure disputing its passage. As the man at the steering wheel caught sight of the yellow mask covering the face of that figure he quickly fished under the seat and produced a heavy wrench.

"You can't pull this hold-up stuff on me and get away with it," he growled angrily.

"I'm not holding you up," came the quick answer, "but I've got to get to the stone quarry down the road and get there in a hurry. It's a matter of life and death!"

"I don't fall for that bunk," the driver retorted sharply; "get there if you want to, but not in this car."

The Laughing Mask realized every second was precious and that the other obstinately believed him a highway robber.

"Perhaps this will help persuade you to change your mind," he cried as he drew a black automatic and sprang upon the running board of the automobile. Thrusting the muzzle of the revolver against the startled man, he rapped out in tones that precluded further argument, "Now rive like the devil for Wharton's quarry or I'll empty this gun into you!"

There was no disputing that insistently prodding revolver, and the car shot forward as the overawed driver realized the desperate man in the mask meant business. It would be but a matter of a few moments before that speeding, swaying car covered the remaining distance, but even in that brief lapse of time Jules Legar might succeed in carrying out his terrible plan of revenge. For at that instant the scarred outlaw knocked sharply on the sagging door of the watchman's shanty with his iron hook, while Dutch Frank slipped out of sight behind one side of the roughly-boarded structure. There came the sound of shuffling feet and then the Italian pushed open the door and stood interrogatively blinking at his sinister caller.

"I'm on my way back to town." Legar said in a smooth voice, "and somehow I got switched off the main road. I thought maybe you could set me straight."

As the obliging and unsuspecting foreigner advanced a few steps beyond the shelter of his doorway in order to point out the proper direction inch by inch there crept up behind him a savage-faced gangster, holding poised and ready to strike a murderous-looking blackjack. Suddenly that bludgeon descended with terrific impact on the watchman's skull, sending him heavily to the ground, where he lay inert and motionless.

As Dutch Frank stood with a cruel smile surveying the result of his handiwork, Legar stepped over the still form as indifferently as though it had been a fallen tree-trunk. Then, as he was about to enter the shanty, he paused for a moment on the threshold and flung a quick look over his shoulder. What he saw brought a snarling execration to his lips, for tearing down the precipitous hillside toward the quarry came an automobile driven at a death-courting pace. On the running-board of that madly lurching car precariously slung a man wearing a yellow mask. As in a swirling cloud of dust the car struck the foot of the hill that masked figure leaped wide to the side of the road and, miraculously retaining his footing, dashed into the quarry, shouting frantic warnings as he came.

Then it was that Legar realized his prey would escape him unless he acted without the loss of a second. He swung about and darted through the door of the shanty toward the pumplike electrical contrivance from which creeping wire tendrils extended to the mine cliff. But before his lean fingers could jam down the handle and make the connection which would produce the jumping blue spark of deadly power Margery Golden and the astounded detectives had leaped from their place of concealment and hastily advanced to meet the masked fugitive for whom they had been lying in wait.

"Legar!" he panted brokenly. "Legar is here—he's firing a blast—half the cliff will fall—hurry—hurry—in God's name—hurry!"

His words and manner carried instant and fearsome conviction, and that startled group about him, madly plunging for safety, barely reached the highway when a deafening, reverberating roar split the air and rocked the very ground under their feet.

For a moment the little group stood in spellbound silence, gripped by the suddeness of that mighty convulsion, and shaken by their own near approach to death. Then as the fine dust clouds accompanying the chaotic upheaval gradually settled it came to the scattered sense of the ungrateful police captain that the much-wanted Laughting Mask was standing close beside him. With a quick movement he clutched the wrist of that elusive fugitive in his strong stubby fingers.

"I've got you this time," he yelled out in triumphant tones.

But instead of replying to this somewhat premature statement the masked prisoner made a quick and dexterous tripping movement with his foot, at the same time giving his red-faced captor a violent shove that sent him ludicrously sprawling on his back. Then he darted into the quarry, threading his way amid the great piles of rock, with the police captain, who had now recovered his equilibrium, and the two detectives in full cry at his heels.

* * * * *

Margery Golden breathlessly awaited the outcome of that chase, for she realized that if this man, who had just saved her from a terrible death, was captured she would be responsible in large measure. The running figures were lost to sight, but presently the Laughing Mask broke from the cover of a great rectangular rock and, dashing past her to the opposite side of the road, threw himself face downward among the sheltering bushes. The next moment his pursuers emerged from behind the rock and came pounding toward Margery Golden.

"Which way did he go?" the gasping police officer demanded of the girl who held the fate of the Laughing Mask in her hands. After an almost imperceptible hesitation, she pointed silently toward the bend of the road. Hardly had the detectives, trailing this fake scent at top speed, disappeared around the turn than there slipped out of the bushes a masked figure bearing evident traces of exhaustion. Slowly he approached the girl, into whose eyes crept a look of stern reproach. Taking her hand he raised it tenderly to his lips.

"Won't you try to believe in me just a little while longer?" he asked in a low, pleading tone.

Then without waiting for her answer he relinquished that soft, white hand and ran up the road in the opposite direction from that taken by his pursuers.

(To be continued.)

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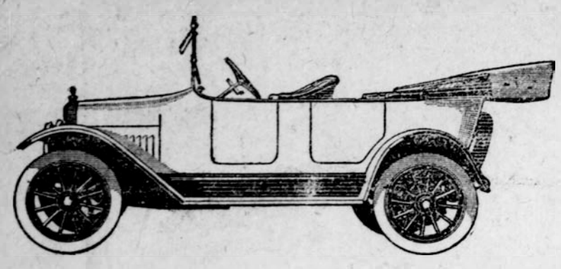

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In the **ASTOR CUP RACE** for **250 MILES** on 1st October, 1916, a **MAXWELL** came **SECOND** at the speed of **104 MILES** per hour, the winner being only one minute faster in the **250 MILES!!!** The **MAXWELL WON 5,000 DOLLARS!!** and **BEAT** the following makes among others, Sunbeam, Delage, Mercer, Crawford, Peugeot, Premier, &c., &c., &c. In the **250 MILE "GRAND AMERICAN"** on 18th October, 1916 **MAXWELLS** came **THIRD** and **FOURTH WINNING 1,500** and **900 DOLLARS EACH.**

THE MAXWELL TOURING CAR HAS DONE 36·8 MILES PER GALLON OF PETROL AND 9,871 MILES PER TYRE IN TRIALS.

The following are some of the latest **TESTIMONIALS** from **SATISFIED MAXWELL** users:—

Having now driven my **MAXWELL** for nearly a 1,000 miles I have much pleasure in telling you **I AM EXTREMELY PLEASED WITH IT.** It is an **EXTREMELY GOOD HILL-CLIMBER** and **VERY FLEXIBLE** in traffic. I consider it extremely **GOOD VALUE FOR MONEY** and, a great recommendation in this country, **LIGHT ON TYRES,** since the tyres which I bought with the car show little or no signs of wear.

A FRIEND OF MINE who has also had experience in driving cars of a large number of makes, **ASSURED ME HE FOUND IT THE EASIEST CAR TO HANDLE HE HAD EVER DRIVEN.**

(Sd.) H. A. H. PAYNE.

Bombay, 22nd November, 1916.

I have great pleasure to inform you that the **MAXWELL** car which was purchased by me in February 1916 **HAS GIVEN ME EVERY SATISFACTION** and it has always been my pleasure to drive in it.

(Sd.) BACHUBAI PENN, Mrs.

Bombay, 24th November, 1916.

OUR MAXWELL CAR is a **1912 MODEL** belonging to our branch at Poona, and which they **BOUGHT SECOND-HAND FROM AN OFFICER** who went on active service in the month of August 1914. The **MACHINE HAD GIVEN COMPLETE SATISFACTION TO THE PREVIOUS USER,** and **WE ARE ALSO MUCH PLEASED WITH ITS WORK,** as it is **VERY LIGHT IN PETROL CONSUMPTION AND ON TYRES,** hence for hiring out purposes in competition with other heavy cars, **IT HAS BEEN MUCH REMUNERATIVE. THE CAR HAS BEEN SEVERAL TIMES TO MAHABLESHWAR,** and **ITS BEHAVIOUR ALL THROUGHOUT HAS BEEN SPLENDID** and **IT HAS CAUSED US NO ANNOYANCE OR ANXIETY.**

In conclusion we once more say that we are exceedingly pleased with the car.

(Sd.) WELLINGTON CYCLE & MOTOR Co.

Bombay, 29th November, 1916.

I have now **USED THE MAXWELL CAR FOR OVER A YEAR** and find it is **VERY LIGHT ON PETROL AND TYRES.** My Car has done nearly **10,000 MILES** and **I HAVE NOT HAD** the **SLIGHTEST HITCH OR TROUBLE.** The Car is very **SMOOTH AND SILENT RUNNING.** In **HILL-CLIMBING** I find it **EXCELLENT.**

(Sd.) BEHRAM N. KARANJIA.

Versova, 3-11-16.

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SUB-AGENTS WANTED.

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The Automobile Co. Ltd.

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BOMBAY.

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SHIP CHANDLERS AND HARDWARE MERCHANTS.

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,,	A. & P. Steven, Glasgow	Electric Lifts.
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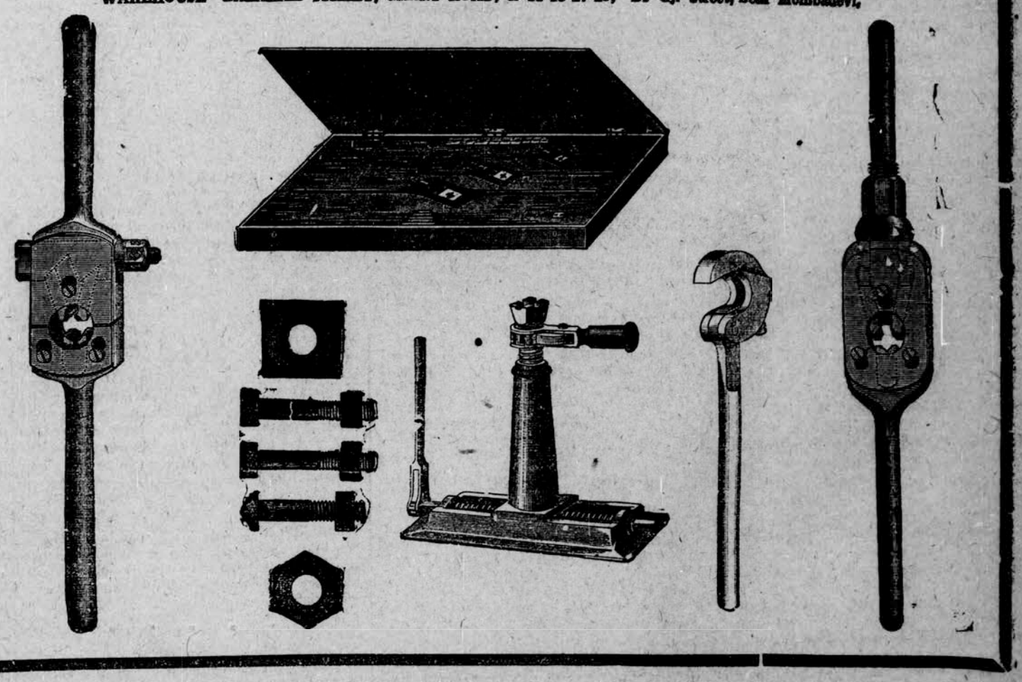
WAREHOUSE—BALARAM STREET, GRANT ROAD, & 11-13-27-29, Dhunji Street, near Mumbadevi.



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Experts in stains removing without cleaning the whole garment.

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WITHOUT AID OF WATER

If within 24 hours, Extra Charges.

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Christmas Cakes	.. Plain, no icing	..	per lb.	Re.	1 0
Do. do.	.. Iced and decorated	..	,,	,,	1 4
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62, ESPLANADE ROAD, BOMBAY.

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